

C. W. O.

GLAMORGAN COUNTY COUNCIL



WELFARE SERVICES DEPARTMENT



**Annual Report of the Director
of Welfare Services
to the Welfare Services Committee
for the Year ending 31st March, 1961**

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County Alderman The Rev. W. DEGWEL THOMAS,
Chairman of the Welfare Services Committee

J. HOWARD BARGH, D.P.A., F.I.S.W., Barrister-at-Law,
Director of Welfare Services

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E. John Powell, Esq., C.B.E., M.I.C.E., M.I.Mun.E.,
County Surveyor.

Messrs. James and Anderson, Weston-Super-Mare
(" morning cup of tea ").

FOREWORD

I have pleasure in submitting to the Welfare Services Committee a Report on the work undertaken in the year ended 31st March, 1961, of providing welfare services for Glamorgan residents who are aged, infirm, blind or physically handicapped.

The most dramatic task undertaken by the Department this year arose from the flooding which wrought havoc in the County in December last. Because of the mountainous nature of many parts of the County the Committee's Scheme to provide temporary shelter for persons affected by flooding, etc., has had several tests in the past, and its success has been attributable to the essential features of immediate and flexible operation. A catastrophe on the scale of the flooding of the 4th December last surpassed, however, the grimmest expectation. To meet fundamental requirements of people in these conditions is in itself no mean problem, but on this occasion difficulties were worse confounded by widespread disruption of essential services — road, telephone communication, gas, electricity. Your Committee's statutory responsibility to care for homeless people is not, however, discharged by your officers working in isolation ; such circumstances dictate the necessity of team effort and your officers were afforded the utmost assistance and support by staff of other Departments, District Councils, voluntary bodies, and individuals. Glamorgan may rightly be proud of the manner in which its people withstood these vicissitudes of fortune, and of the magnificent efforts of those who came to their assistance.

The provision of Homes for elderly and handicapped persons is the major responsibility of your Committee, absorbing the bulk of the Department's resources of finance and manpower. In this sector, spectacular results are not attainable : progress is attainable over a period of years in conformity with a strategic plan. The Committee's Scheme contemplates the development of resources from 689 beds in 1949 to 2,000 beds in some 52 Homes by 1970. To date a total of 18 Homes providing accommodation for 975 residents has been provided. The record gives little indication of the sustained effort involved ; the frustrations of official financial restrictions, the difficulty of securing suitable sites and buildings. A new climate in Government support appears now to augur well for the future. Today, Homes at Port Talbot, Maesteg and Pontypridd are being constructed, and provision exists in the estimates for 1961/62 for the erection of six further Homes.

The happiest personal event this year was the 100th birthday of Mrs. Mordecai of " Bryneithin," whose photograph prefaces this Report. Health and welfare services today are adding to our " span," but there can be but few who preserve the sprightliness and vigour of Mrs. Mordecai.

In my Report last year I reported on the findings and recommendations of the Younghusband Committee appointed by the Government to enquire into the recruitment and training of Social

Workers in Local Authorities' Health and Welfare Services. Recognising the physical inability of Universities to train Social Workers in the numbers urgently required to man the developing services, the Committee recommended the establishment of a National Council of Social Work, and the introduction of intensive courses of training extending over two years at Colleges of Further Education. Persons undertaking this type of course, together with those from the Universities, would in future be regarded as basically trained and would proceed to one or other of the various specialised branches of social work. A need was also recognised of a general type of officer, less qualified academically, who could undertake more routine social-work functions.

The Government has this year accepted in principle the main provisions and recommendations of the Committee and although one awaits the legislation required to promote the National Council for Social Workers, real progress has occurred in the national grading of social workers and the implementation of certain training proposals. It will be some time before the Social Work courses recommended are available in Colleges of Further Education, but meanwhile appropriate Government Departments and other agencies concerned with the implementation of the Report are to be complimented on their recent decision to run pioneer courses at suitable educational establishments in London, Birmingham and Liverpool. It is understood that the number of places to be made available is very limited and one hopes that the Authority may be successful in achieving acceptance of its nominees, of whom two are officers of the Department.

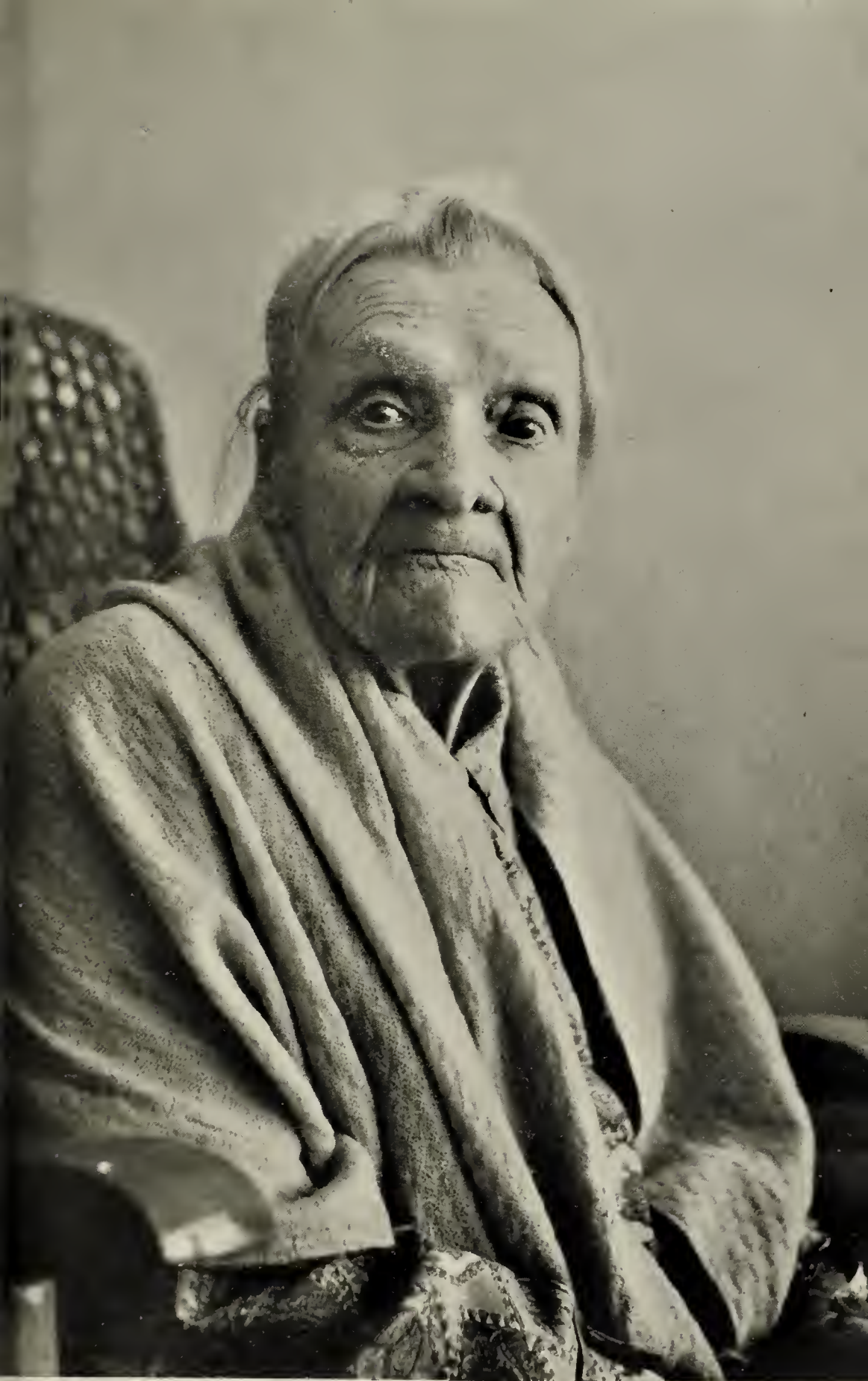
Responsibility for the provision of Welfare Services for the Aged, Blind and Handicapped, was imposed on Local Authorities almost 13 years ago. Officers serving Local Authorities in this work have, in the absence of recognised examinations and courses of training, been unfortunately placed in relation to colleagues in other Departments. Happily, these difficulties are being surmounted and one looks forward to the time when there will be an adequate force of systematically trained Social Workers — well qualified to bring assistance and comfort to needy members of the community.

In presenting this Report to the Committee I would again pay tribute to all members of the Staff of the Department. The Department's contribution to the well-being of aged and handicapped persons in the community is enhanced by a real sense of dedication and team work. To fellow Chief Officers and their Staffs I would also wish to pay tribute : their co-operation and helpfulness have been of the highest order. To the Chairman of the Welfare Services Committee, Chairmen of its Sub Committees and Members generally, I express sincere thanks and appreciation of the support and guidance which have always been afforded to me and my Staff.


J. H. BARGH,

Director of Welfare Services.

10th July, 1961.



"HOW WE TREAT OUR OLD PEOPLE IS A CRUCIAL TEST OF OUR NATIONAL QUALITY" — *David Lloyd George*



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PART I

RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION

Section 21(1)(a) of the National Assistance Act, 1948, imposes on County and County Borough Councils the duty of providing “ *residential accommodation for persons who by reason of age, infirmity or any other circumstances are in need of care and attention which is not otherwise available to them.*”

On the 5th July, 1948 — the “ appointed day ” for the implementation of the Act, the County Council had at its disposal the following residential accommodation :—

	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Total</i>
“ Tegfan,” Aberdare	210	—	210
“ Danybryn,” Pontardawe ..	75	35	110
“ Glanymor,” Penmaen	52	58	110
“ Lulsley,” Horton	10	10	20
“ Eastcliffe,” Penarth	23	—	23
“ Eastbrook,” Dinas Powis ..	—	20	20
“ Bryneithin,” Dinas Powis ..	—	26	26
Graig Hospital (Part III Accommodation), Pontypridd ..	54	116	170
	<hr/> 424	<hr/> 265	<hr/> 689

By the acquisition and adaptation of premises and the erection of the Authority’s first purpose-built Home at “ Bro-Dawel,” Caerphilly, a further 361 beds have become available as listed below :—

	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Total</i>
“ Danygraig,” Porthcawl	21	12	33
“ Moorlands,” Porthcawl	10	16	26
“ Bronleigh,” Neath	—	16	16
“ Caewern,” Neath	15	11	26
“ Craig-y-Parcau,” Bridgend ..	19	20	39
“ Gwalia,” Barry	—	34	34
“ Gardenhurst,” Penarth	27	—	27
“ The Court,” St. Fagans	12	29	41
“ Gellygron,” Pontardawe	12	11	23
“ The Hollies,” Pontardulais ..	13	15	28
“ Fairfield,” Trealaw	18	15	33
“ Bro-Dawel,” Caerphilly	18	17	35
	<hr/> 165	<hr/> 196	<hr/> 361

For several reasons, however, the net increase of available beddage is today less than this figure of 361. This is explainable by the loss of “ Eastbrook,” Dinas Powis, which was de-requisitioned in 1951, the closure of “ Lulsley,” Horton, due to its remoteness, and the alleviation

of overcrowding in the larger homes. These factors resulted in a total reduction of 75 beds. On 31st March, 1961, therefore, accommodation was being provided in 18 Homes for the Aged for 580 men and 395 women — a total of 975 places.

Future Programme

Your long-term development plan envisages the provision of 2,000 beds by 1971, which will necessitate the siting of additional Homes in the following areas of the County :—

<i>Area</i>	<i>Present Provision</i>		<i>Suggested Siting of Additional Homes</i>	
	<i>Homes</i>	<i>Beds</i>	<i>Homes</i>	<i>Beds</i>
Caerphilly	1	36	4	136
Aberdare	1	204	1	35
South-East Glamorgan ..	5	160	5	177
Pontypridd	1	138	2	55
Rhondda	1	33	7	237
Bridgend	3	98	5	171
Neath	2	42	9	309
West Glamorgan ..	4	264	—	—
	—	—	—	—
	18	975	33	1,120
	—	—	—	—

As part of this long-term scheme, you decided in 1959 to embark on a five-year interim programme, in devising which you had regard to the natural desire of old people to be accommodated in close proximity to their home surroundings. Catering as far as possible for this natural predilection, you agreed that Homes should be provided in the following areas :—

Port Talbot (Sandfields Site)
 Maesteg (Cemetery Road Site)
 Rhondda Borough
 Gelligaer Urban District
 Aberdare Urban District
 Ogmere and Garw Urban District
 Neath Welfare Area (two sites)
 Bridgend Urban District
 Cowbridge Area

Capital Projects

The recent relaxation of Ministry restrictions on capital development has allowed your Committee to make appreciable progress in the building of new Homes and the up-grading of existing older establishments.

At the 31st March, three new Homes were in various stages of erection, as follows :—

Sandfields, Port Talbot

Drainage was nearing completion and brickwork (including internal walls) had reached sill level of the ground-floor windows. It is anticipated that this Home, which will provide accommodation

for 35 residents of both sexes, will be completed by January, 1962. The work of erection has been contracted to Messrs. Frank Batty & Smith Ltd., Cardiff, in accordance with plans prepared by the County Architect.

Cemetery Road Site, Maesteg

The erection of this 35-bedded Home accommodating men and women is being undertaken by the Direct Labour Section of the County Architect's Department, under the supervision of Mr. W. Stephen Thomas, A.R.I.B.A., Newport. Work was commenced on the 13th March, 1961, for completion in 15 months. By 31st March, the site had been cleared and excavations were in progress in readiness for laying foundations.

Glantaf, Pontypridd

This 60-bedded Home is being constructed as a partial measure in the clearance of residents from Part III Accommodation, Graig Hospital, Pontypridd, which is regarded as completely unsatisfactory for the care of old people. The builders of Glantaf, Messrs. Frank Batty & Smith Ltd., commenced operations on the 1st November, 1960, working towards a completion date of 31st January, 1962. The contract is being supervised by Mr. W. Stephen Thomas, A.R.I.B.A., Newport. All foundations had been laid and 20 per cent of the building work completed by the end of the period under review.

In addition to these new Homes, substantial up-grading has taken place this year at "Danybryn," Pontardawe. Sanitary and bathing facilities have been greatly improved and lounge and bedroom accommodation raised to the highest standards. (This is illustrated by the photographs on pages 38 and 39 of the Report.) A fully automatic lift to be installed in a central position in the building will be of considerable help to the residents and give more flexible use to the accommodation available. Three new boilerhouses have been installed to provide efficient central heating and domestic hot water throughout the Home.

In total concept, aesthetic as well as utilitarian considerations have played their part; the use of wall-paper of advanced contemporary design, colourful thermo-plastic tiling together with the introduction of modern furniture, have combined to create a cheerful, welcoming atmosphere. Attention has also been paid to garden layout and unsightly boundary walls have been removed. With the completion of the internal work and certain upgrading of the grounds, one feels confident that "Danybryn" will be a home in which the Committee may take pride. This year's surge in capital development heralds a period of extended activity. Already loan sanction has been promised, subject to the

necessary formalities, in respect of the following building projects for the financial year 1961/62 :—

35-bedded Home at Aberdare

35-bedded Home at Bettws

35-bedded Home at Church Village

35-bedded Home at Cymmer, Port Talbot

35-bedded Home for Senile Persons in need of care and attention (Site not yet selected)

60-bedded Home at Treallaw, Rhondda.

Re-opening of "Eastcliffe," Penarth and "Bryneithin," Dinas Powis

In the course of the year, two Homes — "Eastcliffe" and "Bryneithin" were re-opened after being closed for extension and adaptation. In July, "Eastcliffe" residents were welcomed back to a completely re-decorated Home which incorporates a new gas-operated central heating system, passenger lift, and remodelled electrical system. Additional sanitary facilities and other works have enabled accommodation here to be increased from 18 to 22 beds.

"Bryneithin" was re-opened in November, 1960, with accommodation increased by 15 beds to a total complement of 36, following the erection of an extension. The adaptations also incorporated a new central heating system and improved lighting and sanitary amenities. (The extension is featured in photographs appearing on pages 34 to 36 of this Report.)

Installation of Lifts

Further steps were taken in the course of the year to implement your programme of installing lifts at all Homes where practicable. In addition to the lift included in the upgrading works at "Danybryn," at the 31st March work was also in progress on lifts at "Tegfan" and "Moorlands." The photograph on page 40 shows a handicapped resident making use of the lift recently installed at "Eastcliffe," Penarth.

"Open Days" at Homes for the Aged

In planning Homes, the Committee's constant concern has been to promote an atmosphere of homeliness and an extension of the normal and familiar way of life. An essential ingredient in achieving this end is the development of contacts between residents and the community in which the Homes are situated. These ties would inevitably develop in course of time but to promote and accelerate this natural process "open days" are now to be held as a regular feature at all Homes. On the 17th September, 1960, an experimental "open day" was held at "The Court," St. Fagans, and attracted 250 guests, who were greatly impressed by the Home and grounds. Visitors were welcomed by the Chairman of the County Council, County Alderman P. J. Smith, M.B.E., D.L., J.P., M.R.S.H. An informal and happy atmosphere was engendered and the residents entered heartily into the spirit of the occasion in organising raffles and making prizes. A display of aids for handicapped persons served to give visitors to the Home a broader insight of the scope of welfare services.

The success of the venture was commonly agreed, and augurs well for "open days" at other Homes now being organised.

Admissions to Homes for the Aged

It will be seen from Table II of the Appendix that the number of applications for admission to residential accommodation has remained fairly constant, compared with last year. Applications from men were identical at 243, whilst the number of ladies seeking admission to Homes rose slightly to 241.

There has been a noticeable increase in the numbers actually admitted to Homes, confined mainly to men. Unfortunately insufficient female accommodation is available to meet demands and sometimes persons who urgently need admission have to wait some time.

The length of the waiting period varies with the type of accommodation required and a request for ground-floor accommodation at a small Home is the most difficult to satisfy. It is greatly to be hoped, however, that the waiting list will be reduced as the fulfilment of the building programme takes place and each Home acquires a lift, making more flexible the potentialities of the Home.

Liaison with Hospital Authorities

It is not always easy to distinguish between the "aged and infirm" who require residential accommodation and the "chronic sick" who are the responsibility of the Hospital Authorities. The broad principles by which the two categories are defined have been laid down in Ministry of Health Circular 14/57 but borderline cases still occur from time to time, which call for mutual understanding and tolerance on the part of both hospital and welfare authorities. Fortunately, excellent relationships exist between the Authorities in Glamorgan, and in many instances to secure a hospital bed for a resident of a Home an exchange is arranged with a person no longer in need of hospital care, but needing care and attention.

Charges for Residential Accommodation

Residential accommodation is provided according to need, irrespective of the financial resources of the individual. However, each resident must by law pay for the services provided, according to his means. The standard charge in your Homes is based on a formula agreed by the County Councils' Association and in the period under review it was £6 16s. 7d. per week from 1st April, 1960, and £7 3s. 6d. per week from 1st October, 1960. The assessment of ability to pay must take into account the statutory requirement of 10s. per week pocket money — to be increased to 11s. 6d. as from 3rd April, 1961. Certain income is disregarded — e.g. the first 15s. weekly of Superannuation payments, and Friendly Society Benefit; the first 30s. weekly of certain disability benefits and pensions, subject to an overall maximum of 30s. per week.

Possession of capital assets of more than £600 creates automatic liability to pay the full "standard charge" but in calculating the assessment, War Savings up to a maximum of £375 are totally disregarded. Other capital assets not exceeding £100 are also disregarded and additional amounts up to £500 are regarded as producing a notional income of 6d. per £25.

At the other end of the scale, the minimum charge, as prescribed by Ministerial Regulations, is £2 per week, which will be increased to £2 6s. 0d. as from 3rd April, 1961.

At the 31st March, only 3% of persons in residential accommodation were required to pay the full standard charge, while 77% paid the minimum charge and 20% paid varying amounts between these two extremes.

Ordinary Residence

The National Assistance Act, 1948, stipulates that the Authority responsible for providing residential accommodation for a person in need is the one in whose area he ordinarily resides. In cases of urgency or where a person has no settled residence, accommodation must be provided by the Authority in whose area he then is, but there exists the right to recover the cost of maintenance involved from the Authority in whose area the person normally resides. Generally, agreement is reached amicably between the Authorities concerned in the allocation of responsibility. In the event of a dispute, the Minister is required to decide the place of ordinary residence.

At the 31st March, 1961, persons ordinarily resident in Glamorgan, for whom your Committee is financially responsible, were accommodated in Homes of other Local Authorities, as follows:—

<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>
Breconshire County Council	2	5
Caernarvonshire County Council	1	—
Carmarthenshire County Council	2	1
Merthyr Tydfil Corporation	2	3
Monmouthshire County Council	—	1
Newport Corporation	—	1
Pembrokeshire County Council	—	1
Somerset County Council	—	1
Swansea Corporation	—	2
Worcestershire County Council	1	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	8	15
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Similarly, accommodation was being provided in Glamorgan Homes for 11 men and 16 women on behalf of other Authorities.

Residential Accommodation for Disabled and Handicapped Persons

Local Authorities are required under Section 21(2) of the Act to “*have regard to the welfare of all persons for whom accommodation is provided and, in particular, to the need for providing accommodation of different descriptions*” suited to different persons. In guiding Local Authorities on the implications of this Section, Ministry of Health Circular 87/48 refers to the provision of accommodation for persons needing care and attention by reason of various kinds of disability. Persons with certain disabilities may sometimes be best catered for by specialised organisations, and Authorities are urged to make agency arrangements with voluntary bodies providing these homes. Where appropriate, and at the wish of the person concerned, your Committee normally agrees to such arrangements provided the amenities and facilities of the Voluntary Home are of a standard comparable with those in Glamorgan Homes. Persons with strong religious or social affiliations who indicate a preference for admission to Homes administered by religious or other organisations, are given similar consideration.

On the 31st March, 1961, 35 men and 22 women, ordinarily resident in Glamorgan, were maintained on behalf of your Committee at the following Voluntary Homes :—

<i>Home</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>
Meath Epileptic Home	—	1
Langho Epileptic Colony, Blackburn ..	2	1
Maghull Epileptic Colony, Liverpool ..	1	2
David Lewis Epileptic Colony, Cheshire	1	1
Chalfont Epileptic Colony, Bucks. ..	6	3
Lingfield Epileptic School	1	—
Glynn Vivian Home of Rest for Blind, Mumbles	4	1
Southerndown Home of Rest for the Blind	1	1
Royal School for the Blind, Leatherhead	—	1
Searchlight Cripples' Workshops, Newhaven	1	—
British Legion Home, Bwlch, Brecon ..	9	—
Methodist Home for the Aged, Harrogate	—	1
W.V.S. Home, Hampstead	—	1
Church of Scotland Home, Hamilton ..	1	—
Cheshire Foundation Home, Cheltenham	—	1
Cheshire Foundation Home, Llanstephan	2	4
“Tanybryn” Cripples' Home, Abergele	2	—
National Spastics Society, Prested Hall, Essex	1	—
Royal National Institute for the Blind Home, St. Leonards-on-Sea ..	—	1
Royal National Institute for the Blind Home, Westcliffe House	—	1
Boston and Holland Blind Society, Sunniholme	—	1

<i>Home</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>
Dorincourt Estates, Leatherhead ..	—	1
Star and Garter Home, Surrey	1	—
William Simpson Home, Plean	1	—
St. Nicholas Home for Deaf Boys, Wembley	1	—
	—	—
	35	22
	—	—

Compulsory Removal of Persons in Need of Care and Attention

County Borough and County District Councils are empowered by Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, as amended by the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, to make application to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction or, in certain circumstances, to a Justice of the Peace for compulsory removal to hospital or residential accommodation of persons who :—

- (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions, *and*
- (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

Application for the requisite order may be made to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction only on the written certificate of the Authority's Medical Officer of Health, after thorough enquiry and consideration of the interests of the person concerned and others. Where expedient, the Court may order the removal of the person concerned to a suitable hospital or residential accommodation for any period not exceeding three months.

An emergency procedure incorporated in the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, provides for application for a removal order to be made to a single Justice of the Peace or a Court of Summary Jurisdiction by the Medical Officer of Health supported by a certificate of another registered Medical Practitioner. Such an order may not authorise a person's detention for a period exceeding three weeks. Orders of either type may be extended from time to time by the Court for a period not exceeding three months. Naturally, before applying the legal procedure, efforts are made to persuade the person to enter the Home on a voluntary basis and I am pleased to say that no compulsory orders have been reported for the year under review.

Amenities at Homes for the Aged

It is the aim of all concerned that Glamorgan Homes should be real "homes" and every effort is made to meet all reasonable needs of the residents. Unless they wish otherwise, residents are provided with suitable clothing and receive comforts such as sweets, tobacco and cigarettes.

Recreational facilities are available and newspapers and periodicals are delivered. Although most Homes have a supply of books the library service, administered by the County or District Council, is at the disposal of residents. At least one television set and radio receiver are to be found in each Home and facilities for religious worship exist.

Generally, residents are encouraged to use the Home as if it were their own and, of course, are free to visit and be visited by friends. On admission, they are handed a booklet containing much useful information and the very minimum of rules necessary for ensuring the smooth running of the Home. Each resident is free to register with a Medical Practitioner of his own choice, and, in addition, part-time medical officers visit regularly the larger Homes which cater for the more infirm type of resident.

The chiropody service, initiated in 1953, which operates in your Homes continues to be of inestimable value to the residents. Visits are made to the Homes by the Mass Radiography Unit, and on the rare occasions when an infection has been discovered, immediate admission to a Chest Hospital has been arranged.

Gifts and Entertainments

It is my pleasant duty to express appreciation again to members of the Welfare Services Committee, various organisations and individuals who have given their time and money in the interests of the residents of the Homes. Although the Authority meets every reasonable need of the residents, the "extras" provided by voluntary effort in the form of gifts and entertainment provide a welcome addition to the old people's fare.

In the course of the year, numerous concerts, film shows and other forms of entertainment have been given at the Homes and they often become the highlight of the Home's activities. Frequently, gifts in money and kind are received which swell into a veritable flood on festive occasions. Space obviously prevents publication here of a full list of donors who have been thanked individually on your behalf, but the variety and thoughtfulness of the gifts are exemplified by the following :—

The members of Clive Gospel Hall, Caerphilly, have given to each of the residents at "Bro-Dawel" a copy of the New Testament, which has become, for many, a most treasured possession.

At Easter, gifts of eggs were received at various Homes from the Rev. G. Richards, Mount Carmel, Caerphilly, the 49th Club, Senghenydd, the children of St. David's Church, Tairgwaith, and of Llanfair Church, Tairgwaith. The residents at "Fairfield," Trealaw, shared a Monster Easter Egg presented by Messrs. F. W. Woolworth, Limited.

Communal gifts which serve to add to the facilities at the Home evoke the same intense appreciation from the old people as individual gifts : residents at "Glanymor" have experienced countless hours of pleasure from the generous gift of an organ donated by a lady from Taibach.

"Tegfan" has provided a unique example of joint voluntary effort by residents, staff, neighbours and a local organisation leading to an improvement in amenities for the old folk. A former resident, Mr. Michael Murphy, had the idea of transforming part of the grounds into a secluded "haven of rest" and in his Will bequeathed money to help defray the cost of purchasing materials for the project. By the voluntary labour of residents and neighbours working under the direction of the staff, a garden has been laid, in the centre of which stands an ornamental goldfish pond. On hearing of the project, the Aberdare Co-operative Society presented two teak garden seats to commemorate the centenary of the founding of their local branch. Despite the vagaries of last summer's weather, many peaceful hours were spent by residents on these seats, and undoubtedly this "haven" will be a source of great pleasure to residents for many years to come.

Annual Outings

As in previous years, each Home organised its annual summer outing which was eagerly anticipated and thoroughly enjoyed by the residents. Below are particulars of the outings arranged, the venues being chosen in consultation with the residents.

<i>Home</i>	<i>Venue</i>
"Fairfield," Trealaw	Porthcawl
Graig Hospital (Part III Accommodation), Pontypridd, and "Bro-Dawel," Caerphilly	Symonds Yat
"Tegfan," Aberdare	Porthcawl
"The Court," St. Fagans	Bath and Cheddar
"Caewern," Neath	Gloucester and Cheltenham
"Glanymor," Penmaen	Llanwrtyd Wells and Builth Wells
"The Hollies," Pontardulais	Tenby
"Gardenhurst," Penarth, and "Gwalia," Barry	Gloucester
"Danygraig," Porthcawl	Tintern and Symonds Yat
"Danybryn" and "Gellygron," Pontardawe	Porthcawl
"Craig-y-Parcau," Bridgend	Tenby

Annual Holidays

It gives one pleasure to refer to that outstandingly successful innovation — a seaside holiday arranged for the County Council's "guests." Members will recall that the Chairman of the Hostels Management Sub-Committee and I were commissioned to discuss this project with residents at the various homes, on the basis that residents would pay for their accommodation and the Authority be responsible for transport costs and other incidental expenses.

The suggestion was received generally with acclamation and accordingly reservations were booked for one week at four hotels at Weston-Super-Mare. 130 residents finally accepted and a few vacancies created by late withdrawals were offered to Registered Blind and Handicapped Persons. Ten members of the staff (including two nursing staff and one male attendant) from various Homes volunteered to accompany the residents, who were conveyed to Weston-super-Mare in four coaches, the whole party being supervised by a senior officer from my Central Office Staff. Each resident was supplied with a suitable packed lunch, and cups of tea and coffee were supplied at a cafe en route. The return journey was broken at Symonds Yat, where a cooked meal awaited the party.

Several concessions were obtained in respect of local amenities, including free use of deck chairs, admission to Grand Pier and Birnbeck Pier ; half-price admission to the Winter Gardens Pavilion and Cheddar Caves. Price concessions were also made on Campbell's Steamers and for admission to several of the town's cinemas.

On Sunday evening, the party attended a Sunday Concert at the Winter Gardens Pavilion staged by Weston-super-Mare Borough Council for local and visiting Old Age Pensioners and ices were served during the interval. On Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, coaches took the holidaymakers to Cheddar and Bristol Zoo and the week was rounded off with a farewell sing-song and concert at one of the hotels on the eve of departure.

This was a most memorable and enjoyable affair — claimed by many to be the finest holiday of their lives. A sure measure of its success was the almost universal request that this venture should be repeated each year. The cost of accommodation to each resident amounted to £5 12s. 6d. : a most reasonable charge for the type of holiday provided, particularly as residents were not required to pay for their accommodation at the Home.

The photograph on page 37 illustrates a group of residents enjoying their " morning cup of tea " on the hotel terrace.

Registration of Homes for Aged or Disabled Persons

In addition to residential accommodation provided by Welfare Authorities, some Homes for the Aged or Disabled Persons are run by private persons or organisations. The National Assistance Act, 1948, requires managing bodies under penalty of a £50 fine and/or three months' imprisonment, to register the Homes with the County or County Borough Council in whose area the Home is situate. In general, hospitals, nursing homes and premises managed by Government Departments, Local Authorities and certain other specified bodies are exempt from these provisions.

Registration may be refused or subsequently cancelled if the Council are satisfied that :—

- (a) the applicant or any employee at the Home is not a fit person to carry on management or to be employed at the Home ;

- (b) having regard to the situation, conditions, staffing or equipment, the Home is not fit to be used for the purpose ;
- (c) the way in which it is proposed to conduct the Home is such as not to provide services or facilities reasonably required by persons in that Home.

The following Homes were registered by the County Council as at 31st March :—

- (i) “ *Redcroft,*” *Loughor Gardens, Porthcawl*
Accommodates 25 old ladies and is maintained by the Cardiff, South Wales and Monmouthshire Federation of Sisterhoods.
Registered on 15th November, 1950.
- (ii) “ *Holmesdale,*” *Holmesdale Place, Penarth*
A Home for 20 old ladies provided by the Cardiff, South Wales and Monmouthshire Federation of Sisterhoods.
Registered by the County Council on 17th November, 1954.
- (iii) “ *The Home of Rest for the Blind,*” *Southerndown*
Accommodates 56 blind persons of both sexes and is maintained by the Wales and Monmouthshire Regional Council for the Blind.
Registered on 15th December, 1954.

These Homes are visited at approximately six-monthly intervals by representatives of the Welfare Services Department, the County Architect and the Chief Fire Officer and their reports submitted to your Committee for consideration.

Courses for Wardens and Matrons

As in previous years, two of your Officers have attended the residential refresher courses organised by the National Old People's Welfare Council for Wardens and Matrons.

The Council is also organising a 14-weeks' Training Course for Matrons and Assistant Matrons, and you have agreed in principle to release two officers for this training.

The Human Side of the Service

One of the most welcome developments in social work practice during recent years has been the growing concern to help solve individual problems of clients, as distinct from impersonal preoccupation with the social effects of personal shortcomings or disabilities. This changing concept is exemplified by the replacement of the term “problem families” by the phrase “families with problems.” Your Wardens and Matrons display, daily, infinite care and patience in dealing with a resident's problems and wishes, re-cultivating self-respect and conferring a firm “sense of belonging.” A good example of this occurred recently when a resident at “Tegfan” expressed in a chance remark a wish to see his sister whose whereabouts had been unknown to him for the last forty years. He had been parted from her at a Children's Home to

which they were admitted on the death of their parents shortly after the First World War. He had remained at the Children's Home for some time and his sister transferred to an English Orphanage, the name of which he was unaware.

After numerous enquiries, and with the aid of the Children's Department, the sister was eventually traced in Stockport. Arrangements were then made for her to be visited by her brother, and a joyous reunion ensued. Brother and sister now correspond weekly, exchange birthday and Christmas cards, and every year spend a fortnight's holiday together at Porthcawl.

Sometimes a difficulty can be surmounted by a combination of the Committee's Services. Mrs. C. of "Fairfield," is a blind person who refuses to be overwhelmed by her disability, and has been encouraged to attend the Handicraft and Social Centres at Pontypridd each Monday and Tuesday. Her handicraft creations are indeed a credit to her and she enjoys immensely the periodical trips with her companions of the Social Centre. The latest model transistor wireless set, supplied to her by the British Wireless for the Blind Fund, has also been a boon to this lady.

Old outmoded ideas die hard ! Despite widespread knowledge of the high standards of care dispensed at your Homes, people are still occasionally to be found who refrain from seeking admission because of dread of an institution-like regime. Rather than risk "the devil they do not know," they seem prepared to endure the utmost squalor — sometimes encouraged by apparently intelligent relatives. One such case was Mr. and Mrs. X., whose condition prior to admission is graphically described by the Area Clerk in the following terms :—

"Mr. X., aged 83 years, who lives with his wife in a mountain-side hut, looked for all the world as if he had only then returned from the afternoon shift in a coal-mine. He was black from head to toe and it was impossible to distinguish his once white shirt and underwear from his grimy, black suit. His wife sat in the far corner of the kitchen, herself as filthy as the stove which threw acrid black smoke into the room. The whole room was thick with coal dust and strewn with rubbish and on this winter's day the gloom served only to intensify the squalid conditions in which two human beings were existing. Two other rooms in the bungalow were very sparsely furnished with "junk" fit only for the incinerator. The fourth room served as the bedroom ; the bed was covered with feathers, the clothes tattered and sacks were being used as sheets. All these coverings were in a shocking condition, and there is no doubt that Mr. and Mrs. X. went to bed in their clothes."

It is hard to imagine that, in such a case, the close relatives had been reluctant to seek admission of the couple to a Home because of the imagined stigma attaching to an "institution."

In last year's Report I made reference to the oldest resident at "Gardenhurst," at that time recovering in her 99th year from a fractured femur. I am pleased to inform you that Mrs. Mordecai who made a

remarkable recovery after her accident, has now passed her 100th birthday. Members of the Hostels Management Sub-Committee know her to be as nimble and pleasant as her photograph suggests and this great event in her life was not allowed to pass without some mark of respect for a grand old lady. An informal birthday party was held at the Home and, after the cutting of the cake, the guests, who included representatives of your Committee and District Councils, toasted the old lady's health. She was obviously thrilled by the reception and the large number of birthday greetings she received, especially the telegram from H.M. The Queen. Among her many presents was an 18 lb. box of grapes donated by a South African farmer under the 'Grapes for Centenarians' Scheme, and two stoles made at the County Workshops for the Blind, presented to her on your behalf. Altogether a moving tribute to mark a truly momentous occasion !

TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION

Temporary Accommodation under Section 21(1)(b) of the National Assistance Act, 1948, can be sub-divided into two categories — firstly that provided by the Authority in discharging its statutory duty for persons who are in urgent need thereof in circumstances which could not reasonably have been foreseen, and, secondly, that provided in such other circumstances as the Authority may in any particular case determine. The County Council has thus a duty to provide temporary accommodation for persons rendered homeless by fire, flood or other emergencies which could not reasonably have been anticipated and may, if it so decides, provide for persons becoming homeless through their own default, e.g. eviction for rent arrears, etc.

Fire, Flooding or Other Emergencies

To meet temporarily the needs of victims of natural disasters rendered homeless, the Committee has earmarked and acquired the right to use some forty halls situated in strategic parts of the County, and other halls can also be obtained if required. Under your Committee's scheme, emergency stocks of beds, bedding, crockery and other equipment to cater for about 200 persons are held centrally by the County Supplies Officer for transportation at short notice to affected areas. It has been agreed with the Welsh Board of Health that an incident involving more than 200 homeless persons would rank as a disaster for which aid could be expected at national level.

The effectiveness of these arrangements was illustrated during the disastrous flooding which hit South Wales on the 4th December, 1960. Your scheme combined effectively with other services, State, Local Authority and Voluntary, in bringing succour and assistance to the victims of what was undoubtedly the worst flooding experienced in the County in living memory. In the course of the operation many things undoubtedly were done which, regarded in retrospect, perhaps should not have been done, and vice-versa, but I think every person and every organisation which assisted gave of their best. So far as concerns your Scheme, the provision of temporary accommodation and feeding was in operation within a matter of hours.

The highest praise is due to the Police, Fire Service, Civil Defence, Salvation Army, W.V.S., Red Cross, National Assistance Board, the Staffs of the County Supplies and Education Departments, other local authorities, members of your Staff and the general public for their devoted work in this emergency.

The Welfare Services Department was alerted by the Police early on the morning of Sunday, 4th December, and the emergency Fire and Flood Scheme was set in operation where necessary. Owing to disrupted telephone and road communications, co-ordination was extremely difficult in the early stages of the emergency and the efficiency of the operation was due largely to the initiative of Area Clerks and their staff. Emergency Rest and Feeding Centres were set up with a minimum of delay in the worst affected areas and emergency stocks despatched by the County Supplies Officer.

As is usual at such a time, relatives, friends and neighbours were quick to rally to those in need, and, in fact, the majority of the families affected were accommodated by friends or relatives. The Department's services were, however, required in numerous instances and, in all, temporary sleeping accommodation was provided for approximately 76 persons. In some places, particularly at Trehafod, Gelli and Nantgarw, hundreds of homes became uninhabitable, gas and electricity supplies were cut and cooking facilities were non-existent. In these circumstances some 1,600 persons had to be fed, initially by light refreshments provided by this Department, and later through the School Meals Service.

Some emergency Centres set up were not required for more than 24 hours, but those at Gelli, Trehafod and Nantgarw remained in operation for several days. The houses worst affected were under water for two days and then inundated with mud and silt left by the receding waters. At Trehafod, in particular, hundreds of voluntary workers were engaged, in conjunction with various local authority services, in making homes again habitable, and despite these efforts many people were unable to return to their homes for several days. Furniture, clothing and financial assistance are, of course, the concern of other agencies, but the following is a summary of the assistance given by the Welfare Services Department at various places :—

Aberdare Area

Following extensive flooding at Mountain Ash, 35 people had to be evacuated from their homes. Two Rest Centres were set up by the Area Clerk at 9.15 a.m. on Sunday, at the W.V.S. Hall and Workmen's Welfare Hall, Mountain Ash. Although families rendered homeless were able to obtain accommodation elsewhere, light refreshments had to be provided for 150/200 people whose cooking facilities were temporarily out of commission. As the position gradually eased and the demand for refreshments abated, the Workmen's Hall was closed at noon and the W.V.S. Hall at 7 p.m.

Bridgend Area

Two Rest Centres were set up by the Area Clerk at Bridgend on Sunday at Penybont School and the Drill Hall, Derwen Road, opened

at 8.45 a.m. and 9.30 a.m. respectively. The Drill Hall was used for the temporary accommodation of nearby families who were all able to return to their homes by 1.15 p.m.

At the Penybont School, the School Meals Service provided 20/30 hot breakfasts, 58 hot lunches and 45 teas. No food was issued from Welfare Services emergency stocks. Meals were not required after 7 p.m. and the School was closed as an emergency Centre on Sunday night. A cloakroom and another room at the School were, however, used during the next three days for drying saturated clothing, bedding, etc.

Caerphilly Area

In response to a request on the 5th December for emergency meals to be supplied to approximately 10,000 employees at the Treforest Industrial Estate, appropriate staff of my Department and of the Clerk of the County Council set up headquarters at the County Workshops for the Blind, Treforest, which fortunately had escaped damage. Due to the flooding and lack of utility services, the canteens of two large firms, where most of the workpeople on the Estate take meals, could not function. The canteen staff of both firms was, however, available and set about preparing meals in the open. Supplementary assistance in the form of mobile canteens appeared appropriate and the Clerk of the County Council made arrangements accordingly.

Meanwhile, it transpired that the majority of the houses at Nantgarw had been seriously affected. All cooking facilities were out of order and residents had not had a hot meal since Saturday. Members of the Department with the assistance of the local Police opened a Rest Centre at Bethany Methodist Chapel but these premises had, however, to be cleared of mud and water before use. Hot meals were ordered from the School Meals Service for approximately 300 people, and the W.V.S. and members of your Staff operated the Centre until Tuesday evening. Three main meals were served on both days and some aged persons to whom meals were delivered in their homes, were later assisted by the W.V.S. in the cleaning of their homes. In one house an aged couple had managed to get their paralysed son, who normally slept on the ground floor, to an upstairs room: his mattress, blankets, etc., were saturated and replacements were issued on loan by the Department.

Pontypridd and Rhondda Areas

These areas were undoubtedly the most badly hit in the County — whole communities being isolated. The Area Clerk first learned of the flooding when notified by the Police at 7.15 on the Sunday morning. It was, however, only after several unsuccessful attempts that he was able to reach Pontypridd but meanwhile he had relayed messages via the Police to alert other members of his Staff. Because of the extensive scale of the flooding the Area Clerk toured the area, setting up Centres where required. The enormity of his problem was aggravated by extensive disruption of telephone and road communications, and the task of feeding and accommodating the hundreds of victims would undoubtedly have proved even more difficult had it not been for the sterling work of the W.V.S., Civil Defence Organisation, Rhondda Borough Council

and various other bodies and volunteers. Tribute is due in particular to the Borough Medical Officer of Health, who, by his personal efforts, did much in helping to alleviate the plight of the homeless in the Rhondda.

The following Centres were opened :—

Trehafod

The Memorial Hall, Trehafod, was opened early on Sunday morning by your staff. Emergency supplies from the Area Office were conveyed on foot over the railway line from Pontypridd, and steps taken to provide hot refreshments for victims of the flooding which had affected some houses in Trehafod to a depth of more than five feet. More than 200 homes were rendered uninhabitable but their occupants had all, for the time being, obtained accommodation with relatives and friends. The greater part of Trehafod, however, had no cooking facilities owing to disruption of gas and electricity supplies and some 200/300 people had to be fed at the Memorial Hall.

The worst affected area was situated in the Pontypridd area of Trehafod, but, as road and telephone communications with Pontypridd were severed, the local Division of the School Meals Service could not be operated. Hot soups and other refreshments, therefore, continued to be served until Monday when arrangements were made for a mobile canteen to be diverted from Nantgarw. Thenceforth, hot meals were supplied by the Rhondda School Meals Service.

The Feeding Centre at the Memorial Hall was transferred on Monday afternoon to Bethesda Chapel Vestry, where electric light was functioning, and feeding continued at the latter premises throughout the week. The number of flood victims was swollen by an increasing number of helpers who assisted in clearing houses and restoring road surfaces, and the numbers to be fed rose to a peak figure of 500 on Wednesday and Thursday. Not until the week-end following the floods did the numbers to be fed gradually decrease, as houses were cleared and cooking facilities restored. On Monday, the 12th December, the last 250 mid-day meals were served at Bethesda Chapel and the Centre was closed later that day.

Meanwhile, from Tuesday onwards, a prime requirement was the means to clean and dry over 200 houses and thus facilitate the return of people to their homes. On Tuesday, however, the National Assistance Board, upon the representations of officers of the Department, agreed to purchase approximately 30 tons of coal. It was not possible for delivery to be made to individual houses ; the coal was therefore dumped centrally and householders permitted to collect their requirements. A further supply of ten tons was later delivered.

Cleaning and drying services were operated in the vestry of Bethesda Chapel by Hoover Limited, who installed eight Hoovermatic machines, and British Oxygen Limited provided a number of very efficient dryers to dry out houses. Large quantities of brooms, buckets, mops, cleaning materials and wellington boots, were issued on loan to householders and squads of volunteer workers, amongst whom were girls from the

Domestic Science College, Cardiff. Following an appeal by County Councillor Westwood and County Councillor James, quantities of secondhand furniture were collected, stored at a local Old Age Pensioners' Hall, and later issued to needy householders.

Ynysybwl

A feeding centre was set up at Nazareth Vestry on Sunday morning to meet the needs of flood victims from Clydach Terrace, Ynysybwl. Ladies of the W.V.S. operated the Centre, which catered for 50/75 persons before closing that day.

Gelli

Serious flooding occurred at Gelli and a Rest Centre was opened by W.V.S. and the local Civil Defence Officer at Gelli Junior School early on Sunday morning. Welfare Services Staff later arrived and arranged the issue from the County Supplies Department of bedding and other essential supplies for 100 persons.

Although flooding here was probably as serious as at Trehafod, access to the stricken area was much easier and this facilitated entry of the various services. Nevertheless, flood victims were unable to return to their homes in any appreciable numbers until the following Friday. During the period from Sunday to Friday, some 50-60 persons slept nightly at the Gelli School and between 250 and 300 persons had hot meals twice daily from the School Meals Service. Light refreshments were provided from stocks purchased locally by the Welfare Services Department.

Assistance to householders to clean their homes took the form of issue on loan of brooms, mops, buckets, cleaning materials and wellington boots, issued by the County Supplies Department. The R.A.F. supplied a dryer to assist in this work and Hoover Limited provided machinery for drying out clothing, etc.

Porth

To meet the needs of residents of Rheola Terrace who were rendered temporarily homeless, a condemned cottage at Porth was utilised as a temporary Rest Centre. Twenty-six persons were provided with light refreshments brought from "Fairfield," Trealaw, but no-one required shelter for the night and the Centre was closed.

Cwmparc

Flooding at Cwmparc was comparatively mild and confined to a few houses in Railway Terrace, and when the Area Clerk visited on Sunday he found conditions comparatively normal. Later that day, however, the inhabitants of the Terrace had to be evacuated because of danger of dam-burst higher up the river, and 40/50 people were accommodated for the night at Cwmparc Ex-Servicemen's Club. This arrangement was made with the Club's Chairman by the Medical Officer of Health of the Rhondda Borough Council who supplied mattresses and blankets. Foodstuffs were purchased locally on behalf of the Welfare Services Committee by the Chairman of the Club and crockery was loaned by the Cwmparc Ambulance Association.

The residents of Railway Terrace were allowed to return to their homes the following day and required no further assistance.

Blaenrhondda

Flooding at Blaenrhondda necessitated the emergency feeding of 100/150 persons, unable to prepare meals in their flooded homes. When the Area Clerk arrived at approximately mid-day on Sunday, four members of the Salvation Army were dispensing hot tea in a local public house. He subsequently opened a feeding centre at the Blaenrhondda Junior School and authorised the Salvation Army Officers to purchase food locally and to charge the cost to your Committee. Temporary accommodation was not required and the Centre was closed on Sunday night.

Pontygwaith

Flooding occurred at Pontygwaith on Sunday following a landslide which resulted in water and mud cascading down the mountain into Brewery Street and Fenwick Street. Cooking facilities at 14 seriously affected houses were disrupted and the Area Clerk arranged for food and hot soup to be supplied from Gelli to the families concerned.

The following day, 25 families were advised not to sleep at home owing to the danger of further landslides and a Rest Centre was set up at Zoar Chapel Vestry by the Medical Officer of Health, Rhondda Borough Council, and mattresses and blankets were provided. Some families were accommodated by relatives and friends, but ten persons slept at the Centre on Monday night. The Centre continued in operation until Friday morning, the numbers accommodated varying from seven to sixteen nightly.

During this period hot meals were supplied by the Rhondda School Meals Service at the Avenue Welfare Hut. From Monday to Friday, approximately 35/45 people were provided with hot mid-day meals and those who slept at the Centre were provided with breakfasts. Valuable assistance at the Centre was rendered by the W.V.S. who also arranged distribution of clothing to families in need.

Although, in the course of the year, officers of the Department investigated several other incidents, assistance was only required on one occasion, when, on 29th March, 1961, two thatched cottages were gutted by fire at St. Fagans. The two families concerned were rehoused immediately by the Plymouth Estate, and as their beds and bedding were damaged, replacements were issued on loan through the County Supplies Department.

Eviction

In addition to justifiable demands for temporary accommodation from the victims of fire and flood, numerous applications are received from families becoming homeless through their own shortcomings, e.g., failure to pay their rent, anti-social behaviour, etc. Here, there is no statutory duty on the Authority to provide temporary accommodation and this fact is made clear to all such families in danger of eviction. They are, however, given considerable assistance and encouragement by local officers of the Children's Department and this Department, whose

preventive work unquestionably keeps down to reasonable numbers, the number of homeless families.

When, in the last resort, a family is evicted and alternative accommodation is for the time being unavailable, the County Council — like other Welfare Authorities — provides on humanitarian grounds temporary accommodation for families involving children. The accommodation is provided in a hatted camp at Rhoose, where up to 18 mothers and 72 children can be accommodated and stay is limited to a maximum period of six months.

Under the guidance and encouragement of the resident Warden and Matron, mothers admitted to Rhoose Camp are required to retain responsibility for providing for their own children. To foster a sense of independence, they must purchase, prepare and cook their own meals and bring up their children just as if they were in their own homes. Responsible housekeeping is undoubtedly a factor essential to a happy and well-run home and the Matron of the Camp pays particular attention to those mothers who lack the most elementary principles of domestic management and mothercraft. As the result of her patient and persistent training, many mothers who, when originally admitted, are quite incapable of preparing a cooked meal or budget for their needs, are able to do so before leaving the Camp. Families are encouraged and assisted to obtain other accommodation but, unfortunately, many husbands, better able to seek rooms, etc., for their families than are their wives, are feckless in the extreme and despite representations by Warden and Matron, take little action.

Children of these families often tend to be ill-mannered, poorly clad and lack parental control and support and the Warden and Matron endeavour to foster a normal family relationship and a sense of responsibility to the community, but not always with successful results. The financial and physical requirements of the families are met by the National Assistance Board or other agencies but I would like here to pay tribute to the local branch of the "Save the Children Fund" which has on many occasions assisted families by gifts of clothing and footwear for the children. Rehabilitative work by the Warden and Matron is reinforced by the local Health Visitor who regularly visits the Camp and whose skill and experience has proved invaluable.

Table 5 on page 32 contains particulars of applications for temporary accommodation received during the year from which it will be observed that, of 135 applications for accommodation received involving 135 mothers and 388 children, only 30 mothers and 100 children had to be admitted to Rhoose Camp. This may be compared with 29 families admitted from 96 applicants in the previous year. The increased number of applications received this year does not necessarily reflect an extension of the problem but the result of more detailed reporting of cases dealt with by Area Clerks.

It will be seen from Table 6 on page 33 that 26 families were discharged from Rhoose Camp during the year, of whom 2 were rehoused by local authorities. At the 31st March, 1961, 8 mothers and 36 children were occupying temporary accommodation, whilst average occupancy over the twelve months was 6 mothers and 17 children compared with 5

mothers and 17 children the previous year. The number accommodated at one time fluctuated from extremes of 10 families in May, 1960, to only one family in November, 1960. Despite the limitation of residence to a maximum period of six months, it is pleasing to record that only one family had to be evicted from Rhoose Camp at the end of the permitted stay, and six children had to be taken into care. The average duration of stay of families was two months. Eighteen other children from six families had to be taken into care when abandoned by their mothers.

The actual charge made for temporary accommodation at Rhoose Camp is based on the County Council's Unified Income Scale and is subject to a maximum of £5 5s. 4d. and a minimum of £1 weekly per family.

TEMPORARY PROTECTION OF MOVABLE PROPERTY OF PERSONS ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL AND RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION

Under Section 48 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, County and County Borough Councils are in certain circumstances charged with the duty of protecting the movable property of persons admitted to hospital or residential accommodation. Where it appears that there is danger of loss or damage and no other suitable arrangements have been made, the Council is required to take reasonable steps to protect the property. Normally, a relative of the patient is asked to accept responsibility, and only where no suitable alternative arrangement can be made does the Authority assume protection. This usually involves taking an inventory, removing money or other valuables, securing the premises and notifying the police of the occupant's absence. In some instances it becomes necessary for furniture to be removed to storage at a charge to the County Council. At the beginning of this year the effects of three patients were being stored. In two instances the effects were removed and sold with the owner's consent and at the 31st March, 1961, the County Council was paying storage charges in respect of one case only.

MENTAL PATIENTS — RECEIVERSHIP

Where a person admitted to hospital or residential accommodation is found to be incapable owing to mental infirmity of managing his own affairs, it sometimes becomes necessary for someone to be legally empowered to act on his behalf. Comprehensive and exhaustive enquiries have then to be made before the Court of Protection can decide whether the circumstances justify the appointment of such an Agent, who is called a "Receiver." If no other suitable person, e.g., a relative, is available to act in this capacity, at the Court's request I normally apply for my appointment as Receiver.

During the twelve months ended 31st March, 1961, I was appointed Receiver of the income of four patients and my receivership was terminated in five cases due to the death or discharge of the patient. At the end of the year, 35 Receivership cases were currently being administered.

STATISTICS AND PHOTOGRAPHS

Set out on the following pages are statistical tables and photographs, the captions of which are self-explanatory :—

Table 1

HOMES FOR THE AGED

Distribution of Available Accommodation on 31st March, 1961

Area	Establishment	Accommodation			Floor	Distribution of Accommodation						Total for each Floor
						In Single Rooms		In Double Rooms		In Rooms for three or more residents		
		M.	F.	Total		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Aberdare ..	Tegfan	204	—	204	Gr. 1st	—	—	—	—	75	—	75
Pontypridd and Rhondda ..	Graig Hospital (Part III)	69	69	138	Gr. 1st	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
					2nd	—	—	—	—	67	64	72
	Fairfield	18	15	33	Gr. 1st	14	9	2	2	—	—	27
						—	—	2	4	—	—	6
Caerphilly ..	Bro-Dawel	18	18	36	Gr. 1st	5	5	2	4	—	—	16
						6	6	5	3	—	—	20
South-East Glamorgan ..	Gwalia	—	34	34	Gr. 1st	—	—	—	2	—	3	5
						—	5	—	12	—	12	29
	Eastcliffe (re-opened 6/7/60)	22	—	22	Gr. 1st	—	—	—	—	5	—	5
					2nd	—	—	—	—	9	—	9
						—	—	4	—	4	—	8
	The Court	12	29	41	Gr. 1st	—	—	—	—	—	7	7
				2nd	—	—	8	2	4	12	26	
						—	1	—	—	7	8	
	Garden-hurst	27	—	27	Gr. 1st	—	—	—	—	6	—	6
						—	—	—	—	21	—	21
	Bryneithin (re-opened 24/11/60)	—	36	36	Gr. 1st	—	3	—	2	—	8	13
						—	4	—	4	—	15	23
Bridgend ..	Danygraig	21	12	33	Gr. 1st	—	—	—	—	3	5	8
						—	—	2	—	16	7	25
	Moorlands	10	16	26	Gr. 1st	2	4	—	—	—	—	6
				2nd	—	6	2	2	—	4	14	
						6	—	—	—	—	6	
	Craig-y-Parcau	19	20	39	Gr. 1st	1	6	12	—	4	—	11
						2	10	—	—	—	4	28
Neath ..	Bronleigh	—	16	16	Gr. 1st	—	—	—	—	—	3	3
						—	2	—	4	—	7	13
	Caewern	15	11	26	1st 2nd	—	—	—	2	15	—	17
						—	—	—	—	—	9	9
West Glamorgan ..	Glanymor	44	62	106	Gr. 1st	—	—	—	—	10	11	21
						—	—	2	—	32	51	85
	Danybryn	76	31	107	Gr. 1st	—	—	—	4	36	17	57
						—	—	2	—	38	10	50
	Gellygron	12	11	23	Gr. 1st	—	—	—	—	—	4	4
						—	1	4	6	8	—	19
	The Hollies	13	15	28	Gr. 1st	3	4	—	—	—	—	7
						5	5	2	—	3	6	21
TOTALS ..		580	395	975		46	71	51	53	483	271	975

APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION TO RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION
1st APRIL, 1960 — 31st MARCH, 1961

Table 2

Applications received from	Number admitted to Homes		Number placed on waiting list		Number of applications withdrawn		Number not suitable		Applications under investigation		TOTALS	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Persons themselves or relatives	4	1	2	13	3	3	1	8	—	—	10	25
Members of County Council	8	—	1	8	3	3	3	3	1	3	16	17
Pontypridd and Rhondda Area	22	7	4	12	2	6	3	5	—	—	31	30
Caeprhillly Area	7	3	1	13	2	3	2	2	—	—	12	21
South East Glamorgan Area	13	1	1	26	4	1	—	1	—	1	18	30
Aberdare Area	19	1	4	5	2	—	5	—	—	1	30	7
Bridgend Area	12	4	7	16	1	3	1	1	—	—	21	24
Neath and West Glamorgan Area	31	14	13	29	6	1	5	1	—	1	55	46
Medical Practitioners	2	1	—	3	4	5	1	1	—	1	7	11
Miscellaneous (including applications for transfer from residents in County Homes)	9	3	27	18	5	5	2	3	—	1	43	30
TOTALS	127	35	60	143	32	30	23	25	1	8	243	241
Comparative totals for previous year	105	34	81	139	29	34	17	21	11	5	243	233

Table 3

ADMISSIONS AND DISCHARGES AT COUNTY HOMES
During Period 1st April, 1960 — 31st March, 1961

Home	Admissions (Including Re-admissions)		Discharges		Deaths		Transfers to Hospitals	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Tegfan	116	—	75	—	26	—	41	—
Bro-Dawel	14	17	3	5	1	2	14	9
Graig (Part III)	68	31	21	10	2	—	41	30
Gwalia	—	36	—	36	—	1	—	2
Eastcliffe	29	—	9	—	—	—	1	—
Gardenhurst	32	14	1	36	2	2	1	1
The Court	13	15	6	10	1	5	4	1
Craig-y-Parcau	9	11	2	7	3	1	2	3
Danygraig	15	11	9	7	3	—	5	4
Moorlands	8	15	4	14	—	—	4	3
Bronleigh	—	19	—	17	—	—	—	2
Caewern	12	6	12	5	—	—	—	1
Gellygron	5	13	1	7	3	2	2	4
Danybryn	20	17	9	8	11	6	4	2
Glanymor	15	50	7	21	6	15	4	12
The Hollies	10	17	10	2	1	1	3	8
Fairfield	9	20	2	18	1	—	6	5
Bryneithin	—	42	—	3	—	3	—	2
TOTALS	375	334	171	206	60	38	132	89
Totals at 31st March, 1960	285	192	129	64	60	26	122	86

Table 4
CLASSIFICATION OF RESIDENTS IN COUNTY HOMES BY AGE GROUPS AS AT 31st MARCH, 1961

HOME	Under 65		65-69		70-74		75-79		80-84		85-89		90 and over		TOTALS	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Tegfan	33	—	14	—	34	—	36	—	25	—	14	—	3	—	159	—
Graig (Part III)	12	23	11	5	9	7	14	7	7	12	3	4	—	2	56	60
Fairfield	2	1	2	1	5	1	4	3	3	3	2	5	—	—	18	14
Gwalia	—	1	—	2	—	6	—	7	—	10	—	5	—	3	—	34
Gardenhurst	4	—	3	—	5	—	8	—	3	—	3	—	1	—	27	—
The Court	—	5	—	—	5	6	2	5	3	8	2	4	—	1	12	29
Eastcliffe	1	—	—	—	7	—	5	—	5	—	2	—	—	—	20	—
Bryneithin	—	1	—	2	—	8	—	5	—	6	—	9	—	4	—	35
Craig-y-Parcaw	2	2	1	2	3	3	5	2	3	4	5	6	—	1	19	20
Danygraig	—	—	—	—	2	1	6	3	7	2	4	5	1	—	20	11
Moorlands	—	—	1	2	3	2	4	5	—	2	1	4	—	—	9	15
Caewern	—	—	2	—	4	5	—	3	8	1	1	2	—	—	15	11
Bronleigh	—	1	—	1	—	3	—	1	—	5	—	3	—	2	—	16
Danybryn	9	10	7	2	9	6	14	3	6	4	7	3	1	1	53	29
Gellygron	—	4	—	—	1	—	3	1	—	3	1	2	—	1	5	11
The Hollies	—	1	—	4	—	3	2	5	2	6	—	1	—	2	4	22
Glanymor	2	16	5	10	2	7	3	12	8	8	2	7	1	2	23	62
Bro Dawel	—	1	—	—	3	2	6	7	2	5	2	4	—	—	13	19
TOTALS	65	66	46	31	92	60	112	69	82	79	49	64	7	19	453	388
Totals at 31st March, 1960	58	71	56	33	78	64	108	65	100	69	41	60	7	17	448	379

Table 6

DISCHARGES FROM TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION — YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1961

REASONS FOR DISCHARGE	PERIOD SPENT IN TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION								TOTAL 1960—1961		Comparative totals for previous year 1959—1960	
	One week or less		One week to one month		One month to three months		Three months to six months		W.m.	Ch.	W.m.	Ch.
	W.m.	Ch.	W.m.	Ch.	W.m.	Ch.	W.m.	Ch.				
Rehoused by Local Authority	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	9	2	9	—	—
Obtained Private Accommodation	3	9	1	3	3	8	3	5	10	25	8	25
Obtained Accommodation with relatives or friends ..	3	9	2	3	1	5	1	2	7	19	10	24
Mother left Temporary Accommodation and abandoned children at the Camp	—	—	2	10	2	6	2	4	6	*20	5	13
Expiry of maximum authorised period of residence in temporary accommodation	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	1	†6	2	9
TOTALS 1960 — 1961	6	18	5	16	6	19	9	26	26	79	—	—
Comparative totals for previous year 1959-60 ..	3	7	7	22	9	18	6	24	—	—	25	71

* 18 children taken into care.

† 6 children taken into care.



"BRYNEITHIN," DINAS POWIS — NEW EXTENSION



"BRYNEITHIN," DINAS POWIS — SUN TERRACE



"BRYNEITHIN," DINAS POWIS — MAIN LOUNGE



"MORNING CUP OF TEA" — RESIDENTS ON HOLIDAY AT WESTON-SUPER-MARE



"DANYBRYN," PONTARDAWE — BEFORE UPGRADING



"DANYBRYN," PONTARDAWE — AFTER UPGRADING



HANDICAPPED RESIDENT USING LIFT AT "EASTCLIFFE," PENARTH

PART II

THE HANDICAPPED PERSON

“THEN, AS TIME GOES ON, this toll of defect and injury will happen to those who once were whole, who once enjoyed sight and sound and movement. All that can be done for them — and it may be a good deal — is to mitigate the condition itself, to help them and their families to face the shock and the major adjustments which may sometimes be needed, to supply contrivances in the home and outside it, together with such employment and interest as are possible.”

FROM THE CONCLUSIONS. THE YOUNGHUSBAND REPORT

WELFARE OF THE HANDICAPPED

This year much consideration has been given to staffing of the domiciliary welfare services and in consequence an establishment of field officers has been adopted which will permit of smaller case-loads and the development of improved, extended services, consonant with the tenor of the Younghusband Report.

The ultimate goal of providing full and immediate assistance to all handicapped persons in need will not be easily or quickly reached but the record which follows, I am sure, is evidence that worthwhile progress is being made in the direction one desires.

1. WELFARE OF HANDICAPPED PERSONS (OTHER THAN THE BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED)

Registration

At the 31st March, 1961, the total numbers of persons on the three main groups of the Register were as follows:—

	Generally Handicapped Register	Deaf Register	Hard of Hearing Register	TOTAL
	4,432	261	285	4,978
Comparable figures at 31st March, 1960	4,148	254	274	4,676

The total of 4,978 Handicapped Persons registered with the Authority shows a net increase of 302 over the figure for the previous year : a greater proportional increase than was recorded in the two previous years, which was 71 and 213 respectively. The net increase comprises 7 deaf, 11 hard of hearing and 284 generally handicapped persons. The figures relating to the physically handicapped are of particular significance in that persons newly registered have been almost exclusively those suffering from the more severe types of handicap. Reference to Table IIIa on page 97 illustrates this. For example, the number of registrants suffering from arthritis and rheumatoid arthritis increased from 461 to 580, whilst the number registered suffering from nervous organic diseases rose from 698 to 951. This latter group includes persons suffering from disseminated sclerosis, polio-myelitis, hemiplegia and epilepsy and an influx of 253 registrants would appear to indicate that the general public are becoming increasingly conscious of the services provided and of the increasing benefits which can be conferred on the handicapped.

The first Table in the Appendix gives comparative totals of the three Registers on an area basis, as well as total figures for the two previous years. Table II shows the age distribution of registered handicapped persons and reveals a wider and more varied distribution than for blind persons (Table VI).

The broad classification of the Register in terms of main disabilities and areas of residence is set out in Table IIIa which shows also the trend of registration by disability. A more detailed analysis is employed in the subsidiary Table IIIb. The medical groupings used in these Tables are similar to those used by the Ministry of Labour.

Establishment of Social Welfare Officers

At the beginning of the year under review, the establishment of Social Welfare Officers, including trainees, was 19. Four trainees began courses of in-training during the year of whom three successfully passed the Department's examination. The fourth trainee unfortunately was involved in a traffic accident shortly after beginning training and in consequence was absent from duty for some four months : it is hoped that she will qualify in 1961.

Two trainees, who commenced in 1959, successfully completed their course of instruction ; one of them subsequently obtained the London University External Diploma on Social Science, following leave of absence granted by the Authority to undergo the practical social work training stipulated by the University. Another vacant post was filled by a graduate possessing the Social Science Diploma of the University of Wales, who required instruction in craftwork only.

The Table on page 44, shows the case-loads of individual Social Welfare Officers. Members have in the course of the year considered the implications of such high case-loads which undoubtedly have detracted from the quality and scope of the welfare service. The

Younghusband Committee felt unable to give advice at this stage of development of services for the handicapped on the ideal or maximum case-load, but in the comparable blind welfare service a case-load of 120 persons is generally considered appropriate. The existing field work establishment has, therefore, been examined this year and the County Council has agreed to the additional establishment of seven Social Welfare Officers. Qualified Social Welfare Officers are not likely to be available in any appreciable numbers for some years and therefore to meet this difficulty the County Council has agreed to appoint, if necessary, a corresponding number of trainees who would be trained in accordance with your existing scheme of in-training. It was further agreed that four Welfare Assistants, the cadet grade of your service, should also be appointed.

At the time of writing this report steps are being taken to implement the Council's decisions and it is hoped that the additional field work officers will begin duty on or about the 1st October, 1961. It is difficult to say precisely how the increased establishment will affect your services for the handicapped, but substantial reduction in the case-loads will result, off-set to some extent by progressive increases in persons registered.

Your Technical Assistant in this field, Mr. S. H. Gibbon, commenced duties in September, 1954, and in consequence of the increasing and multifarious demands made upon his services, a Junior Technical Assistant was appointed in 1959. A need for further technical assistance soon became manifest and to meet this another Officer was appointed in October, 1960. Junior Technical Assistants now operate in the Eastern and the Western areas of the County.

A most important function of these officers is the assessment of need, and design of aids and gadgets to overcome disability, and the adaptation of houses to assist handicapped persons. I deal particularly with these provisions of your service on page 54.

Home Visiting Service

The day-to-day visitation of handicapped persons in their homes continues to play a vital part in the operation of your welfare services. For the year ending 31st March, 1961, 16,282 visits were made, a decrease of 1,868 visits on the previous year's figure. The decrease was partly due to the considerable increase in the number of new registrations and the need for Social Welfare Officers to undertake comprehensive investigation, and lay foundations for effective future services. Secondly, the relationship which has developed gradually between the Social Welfare Officer and her charges results in an extension of responsibility of the former. Important as these factors are, the most potent reason for declining visitation has been the extent to which qualified Officers

HOME VISITING SERVICE TO THE HANDICAPPED, 1961

Area to which Social Welfare Officer is officially attached	District	Social Welfare Officer	CASE LOAD		Total Case Load	Responsible for Social/Handicraft Centre at
			Generally Handicapped	Hard of Hearing		
ABERDARE AND CAERPHILLY	Hirwaun to Abercwmboi	Mr. B. Bond	290	2	292	Aberdare
	Mountain Ash to Abercynon	Miss E. Rose	189	2	191	Penrhiwceiber
	Rhymney Valley, Trelewis, Bedlinog, Ystrad Mynach	Mr. K. T. Edwards	198	6	204	Bargoed
	Aber Valley, Caerphilly, Llanbradach, Lower Ystrad Mynach, Tredomen, Nelson, and Machen (Glam.)	Mrs. M. J. Sims	223	7	230	Caerphilly
	Llynfi Valley, to Aberkenfig/Penyfai	Mr. A. L. Day	174	4	178	Maesteg
BRIDGEND AND SOUTH-EAST GLAMORGAN	Ogmore and Garw Valleys to Tondur	Mr. O. E. L. Davies	267	7	274	Pontycymmer
	Bridgend, Coychurch, Coity, Porthcawl, Nottage, Cefn Cribbwr, North/South Cornelly, Kenfig Hill, Pyle	Mr. J. E. F. Owen	173	5	178	Bridgend
	Penarth U.D.C., Barry M.B.C., Dinas Powis	Mrs. J. M. Bennett	236	16	252	Barry, Penarth
	Vale of Glamorgan, Southerndown, Ewenny, Pencoe to Creigiau, Whitchurch and Rhiwbina	Mr. N. W. Evans	194	10	204	Whitchurch
	Borough of Neath, Clyne, Pontrhydyfen, Tonmawr, Jersey Marine	Mr. F. H. Kent (Trainee)	252	27	279	Neath
NEATH AND WEST GLAMORGAN	Cwmlllynfell, Pontardawe, to Ystalyfera, Cilybebyll, Crynant to Bannwen, Glynneath, Resolven, Melin Court, Cwmgwrach, Rhigos	Mr. G. James	222	17	239	Pontardawe
	Gower, Pontardulais, Glais, Cwmgorse, Brynamman, Clydach to Pontardawe Cross	Mr. R. Ireland	217	6	223	Gorseinon
	Port Talbot Borough and Glyncofwrwg U.D.C., less Tonmawr and Pontrhydyfen	Miss M. Harries	271	38	309	Port Talbot
	Area covered by Pontypridd U.D.C. and Ynysybwl	Miss F. Newman	252	10	262	Pontypridd
	Llantrisant and Llantwit Fardre R.D.C. plus Gilfach Goch (part)	Mr. P. J. Lewis	226	6	232	Beddau Tonyrefail
PONTYPRIDD AND RHONDDA	Rhondda Fach	Mrs. E. Evans	267	—	267	Maerdy
	Treorchy, Cwmparc, Treherbert, Blaenrhondda, Blaencwm	Miss J. R. Roberts (Trainee)	259	1	260	Treorchy
	Tonypandy, Clydach Vale, Blaenclydach, Williamstown, Penygraig, Edmundstown, Trebanog, Porth, Dinas, Trehafod	Mrs. J. Z. Jones	258	1	259	Porth
	Pentre, Ton Pentre, Gelli, Ystrad, Llwynypia, Trealaw	Mr. D. A. Parry	264	—	264	Trealaw
			4,432	165	4,597	

SOCIAL/HANDICRAFT CENTRES FOR THE HANDICAPPED, 1961

Area	Centre	Venue	Afternoon	Social Welfare Officer	Average Weekly Attendance	
					1960/61	1959/60
ABERDARE AND CAERPHILLY	Aberdare	St. John Ambulance Hall, Depot Road	Thursday	Mr. B. Bond	33	32
	Penrhiwceiber	Cwmeynon Workmen's Hall	Tuesday	Miss E. A. Rose	23	20
	Caerphilly	Schoolroom, Old National School	Tuesday	Mrs. M. J. Sims	35	12
	Bargoed	Bargoed Institute and Library	Wednesday	Mr. K. T. Edwards	14	13
	Bridgend	Drill Hall, Derwen Road	Thursday	Mr. J. E. F. Owen	24	30
BRIDGEND AND SOUTH-EAST GLAMORGAN	Maesteg	St. John Ambulance Hall	Tuesday	Mr. A. L. Day	33	35
	Pontycymmer	53/55 Oxford Street, Pontycymmer	Wednesday	Mr. O. E. L. Davies	43	37
	Barry	Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road	Thursday	Mrs. J. M. Bennett	39	40
	Penarth	Tabernacle Baptist Church, Plassey Street	Wednesday	Mrs. J. M. Bennett	17	19
	Whitchurch	Church Parlour, Wesleyan Church	Friday	Mr. N. W. Evans	16	15
NEATH AND WEST GLAMORGAN	Neath	Moose Hall, Water Street	Wednesday	Mr. F. H. Kent (Trainee)	44	42
	Port Talbot	Y.M.C.A., Talbot Road	Tuesday	Miss M. Harries	20	20
	Pontardawe	Old People's Welfare Hall, Ynysderw Hall, Pontardawe	Thursday	Mr. G. James	16	12
	Gorseinon	St. Catherine's Church Hall	Friday	Mr. R. Ireland	30	37
	Pontypridd	Holly House, 98 Merthyr Road	Thursday	Miss F. Newman	25	26
PONTYPRIDD AND RHONDDA	Beddau	Cwm and Llantwit Workmen's Hall, Beddau	Wednesday	Mr. P. J. Lewis	28	32
	Trealaw	Maes-yr-Haf Education Settlement	Wednesday	Mr. D. A. Parry	19	22
	Porth	Y.M.C.A., Porth	Thursday	Mrs. J. Z. Jones	18	20
	Maerdy	Workmen's Hall and Institute	Thursday	Mrs. E. Evans	25	30
	Treorchy	Church Hall, St. Matthew's Church	Wednesday	Miss J. R. Roberts (Trainee)	32	32
	Tonyrefail	Social Service Club, The Square	Monday	Mr. P. J. Lewis	*24	—

* New Centre from August, 1960.

have had to participate in the training programme of new entrants to the service. The Table on page 44 shows the disposition of the service, case-loads, areas and other relevant details. Tables have their interest but they give little indication of the quality and nature of the service rendered. To illustrate progress, much of which is intangible and irreducible to statistical form, I have selected for reference a few extracts of reports received during the year. Members will, I think, be struck not only with the close and friendly relationship established between your Social Welfare Officers and their charges, but the expertise with which problems are being solved.

The extracts are preceded by an unsolicited testimony :—

“ May I on behalf of my husband and myself express our very deep appreciation of your wonderful service for us handicapped people.

We are a disabled couple trying to bring up two children often against great difficulties, and your help and the kindness of our Visitor, Mrs. S., makes this task so much easier to perform.

My husband and I both served in the War ; he was five and a half years P.O.W. and I was a nurse in a Liverpool hospital for over three years. We were alone in the world and have often felt that nobody bothered about us, but now we are happy in the companionship (at the Social Centre) of other people like ourselves . . .

Yours most sincerely,

(signed) M. A.”

This lady suffers from arthritis of the lower spine and right leg ; her husband is an epileptic.

“ When meeting handicapped people in their own homes, an officer is able to make most worthwhile contacts. Often a visit can only be classified as “ general,” but valuable work may have been done. I know of many homes where I give little help or advice, but the handicapped people look forward to a friend calling, to whom they can confide their innermost thoughts and feelings. Nothing specific is done, but the value of such visits cannot be measured as something intangible is achieved. Moreover, people often feel secure in their home background, and thereafter reveal problems which they might not do otherwise. I may see members at a Social Centre for many months, and not learn anything special about them, then, on a casual visit to their homes, they reveal quite a serious problem. These problems are quite diverse in character — sometimes small, sometimes much more significant . . . ”

“ . . . The value of such visits can be seen when my help and guidance is readily sought over many varied problems. This can be judged from a remark made to me by an 82 year old lady. She said ‘ Only three people really take an interest in me now — my home help, the nurse and you.’ ”

“ She is severely handicapped with rheumatoid arthritis and gets about the house on crutches. I have given her a great deal of my time. I am the agent authorised to collect her pension money weekly, and this has meant a great deal of running around, making arrangements with the N.A.B., Min. of Pensions, etc. Her pension books were at the P. P.O., and all postal drafts were paid out at R. P.O. I have taken over all this responsibility, and I know that, under her circumstances, she could not have managed without me. With other home-bound people who live alone, I have done many odd jobs for them, from pegging out clothes, getting coal and sticks ready, hanging curtains, lighting fires, shopping, etc. I am very pleased to render this service, because these home-bound, who need most help from us, cannot enjoy many of our services.”

The subtleties of establishing satisfactory relationships are well illustrated in the following extracts :—

“ Mrs. M. of B., is an elderly lady suffering from arthritis, living alone, very independent and only allowing her daughter to help her occasionally. When I visited, she was very depressed, as this daughter had had an accident and could no longer help her. It was clear to me that she had to be helped although at the beginning this proved rather difficult. She refused a Home Help, as she knew they would steal from her (sic) ; she did not want the Meals on Wheels Service, as they put too much gravy on the dinners. She then mentioned that she had been trying to change the bed when I called, so I offered to do this, to which she readily agreed. At least she didn't seem to feel that I might steal the bedclothes, and was very grateful for this practical demonstration of sympathy, which seemed to break down her resistance. She then agreed to let me arrange her meals and obtain a tripod stick for her. She also mentioned that she was a member of a Chapel for 60 years, and that no member visited her now. I was later able to contact the Minister and ask him to arrange for somebody to visit Mrs. M. . . . ”

“ Mr. L. of W., who suffers from cerebral thrombosis, was referred to me by a Health Visitor. On my initial visit, his wife told me that since his illness he had been very nasty towards her and his daughter, and she was fearful that he might take the same attitude towards me. We had a long chat about his condition, and I pointed out to him that he had made a wonderful recovery compared with other instances I had known and impressed upon him, in a diplomatic manner, that the sooner he accepted his disability the sooner would life become a pleasure. I recommended that he should take up some pastime occupation and this he agreed to do. Mr. L. was given instruction in rug-making and has progressed very well. I am now very pleased to report that Mr. L. has learnt to live with himself, and his attitude towards other members of the family has improved considerably. . . . ”

The wide range of a Social Welfare Officer's work is exemplified in the following extracts which sketch the nature and the extent of their operations :—

“ Analysis of the Quarter's Visits

(a) General visits social in character	..	191
(b) Help and advice given	.. ..	44
(c) Special visits	.. ..	21
(d) Handicraft instruction	.. ..	14
(e) Other circumstances	.. ..	53
		<hr/> 323 <hr/> ..

“ After a long discussion, I persuaded Miss W., rheumatoid arthritis, living in a caravan, to make an application for alternative accommodation. Before any action could be taken, her caravan was moved from a field owned by a farmer in M. to his cousin's property in P. Whilst located there, the farmer was served with a notice to remove it within 28 days. To cope with this new situation, an application was made to the Housing Department of the — — — R.D.C. for a flat or Old Age Pensioners' Bungalow. Pending this, a site was granted (a very special concession) by the Beach Manager for the caravan to be transferred there should the need arise. Visits were made to the — — — R.D.C. (the M.O.H., the Deputy Clerk and the Housing Manager).

Arrangements were also made for the W.V.S. to attend to Miss W. should it be necessary to transfer her to — — —. An O.A.P. Bungalow was eventually granted her, whereupon the National Assistance Board was contacted to make a removal and other grants to her. She is now very happily settled in her Bungalow.”

“ . . . Mrs. W., who suffers with rheumatism, was unable to put money in the gas meter because it was too low, and she is unable to bend. I called at the Gas Board Office, and the following morning a man called to alter the position of the meter ”

Members will remember the great distress caused by flooding in various parts of the County during the month of December. This raised particular problems for handicapped people and your Social Welfare Officers were quick to assist where necessary. The following report typifies a number of instances :—

“ The parents of Mr. J. of N., who suffers from muscular atrophy, were extremely grateful for the help given following the flooding. As this family had apparently been flooded on more than one occasion during the past years, they were very anxious to be accommodated elsewhere. I approached the Housing Manager, and he promised to do all he could to help them. Since then, officers from that Council have been to see the family and it is probable that they will be offered alternative accommodation within the next two months. I also approached the National Assistance Board with regard to financial help towards the purchase of a bed and I am pleased to report that this was granted. Also, the wireless set loaned by the Wireless for the Bedridden Society had become unserviceable. This was reported to the Society and I am pleased to report that a new set was provided. This arrived just before Christmas and the family were very pleased with this unexpected ‘ Christmas Box ’ ”

Social/Handicraft Centres for the Handicapped

During the year one new Centre was established at Tonyrefail making a total of 21 Social/Handicraft Centres in operation in the County. Details of the Centres, average weekly attendances, etc., shown in comparison with the previous year, are given on page 45.

In past years it has been your custom to encourage handicapped persons to attend Social/Handicraft Centres by authorising payment of travelling expenses where necessary. This year the expenses of an additional 165 persons were approved, including one person who travels by motor-propelled carriage. In 15 instances of exceptional difficulty, the expenses of escorts were also authorised. A total of £1,006 4s. 3d. was spent on this service, a similar figure to that of last year.

I have remarked in past years how Social/Handicraft Centres have grown in size, in usefulness, and in their acceptance by the local community. Today, a Centre is more than a diversion from monotony, and its members are more than companions in adversity : handicapped persons are not abnormal but normal people with problems, many of which can be solved or eased. The following reports may be of interest on this subject :—

“ The number attending the Handicapped Centre is forty-five. Thirty are men and fifteen women. Of this forty-five an average of thirty-eight to forty attend regularly. The average age of those

attending is fifty-six, the youngest being sixteen and the oldest seventy-four. Two spastics and one poliomyelitis case come in wheelchairs, and one who suffers from paralysis of the lower limbs uses a three-wheeled walking aid. Craftwork flourishes and there is a steady demand from buyers for stools, rugs and tables. During the quarter, the Centre went on its annual outing. Every six weeks a whist drive is held. . . . ”

“ There has again been a very good attendance this quarter at H.H. Centre, despite bad weather conditions. Only personal illness prevents the members coming. They have repeatedly told me that they look forward to the Centre afternoon ; it is the only time they leave their homes, and if it were not for the Centre they would never go anywhere. They are a very happy crowd, full of high spirits, and the atmosphere is always pleasant. The members include in a total of some 30 members

- 5 between the ages of 70 – 74 years ;
- 10 between the ages of 60 – 69 years ;
- 3 who are mentally retarded ; and
- 3 women who always see to the refreshments. ”

“ Attendance at the G. Centre continues to be high, with the members really looking forward to the weekly visit, which obviously plays an important part in their lives. One is conscious of the very congenial atmosphere prevailing. Table games are played to the background of good natured banter, whilst others enjoy exchanging various experiences. The Thrift Club continues to be well supported and prior to Christmas a total of £146 14s. 6d. was paid out amongst members. Magazines of different descriptions continue to be brought in to the Centre for the Home Visitor to distribute among homebound handicapped people ”

These Centres provide a climate in which once-lonely persons can move out of introspection into a brighter and more normal world, viz. :—

“ . . . each quarter the P. Centre improves, and now there is very little resemblance to the Centre existing two years ago. It is now a coherent body, and each member has his or her own function, and knows exactly what to do. Nobody sits around idle, either they do some crafts or play cards and dominoes, and it is easy to see that everybody looks forward to the meeting. Nearly everyone is willing to give something to the Centre, not only material gifts, but their talents as well ”

“ It is most encouraging to note the positive progress towards rehabilitation that has taken place at T. since its opening. Mr. W. E. was the first person to pass through the Centre en route for the Industrial Rehabilitation Unit and then Remploy, and he has now been followed by Mr. F. G. Mr. M. J. has left the Centre

for Dulwich House and the I.R.U., while two other candidates (Miss F. G. and W. A.) will, it is hoped, follow their footsteps in due course. This process does, of course, have some effect on the Centre numerically, but I believe this to be a secondary consideration in the circumstances. . . . ”

The smooth running of Centres is in large measure due to good people who help voluntarily in many ways. I wish to thank all these kind folk, particularly those who prepare and serve the refreshments, which are a feature of the meetings.

Inter-Centre Visits

Twenty-one inter-centre visits were made this year at a cost of £140 15s. 0d. Apart from the social benefits conferred, these visits have proved invaluable in spreading new ideas as to activities both among Officers and members.

Social Amenities

During the months of June and July, 1960, 17 summer outings were arranged and were attended by some 929 handicapped and deaf persons who regularly attend Centres ; where necessary escorts were also invited. The parties travelled to the Wye Valley, Gower, Builth Wells and Aberystwyth, and in all a sum of £759 was expended.

At Christmas, 17 parties were arranged in various parts of the administrative County and 1,006 persons enjoyed the fare provided by the Authority at a cost of £522. Your customary Christmas card was also much appreciated.

Two weaving looms were presented, one by Dr. Aveloy Edwards of Pontypridd and the other by Mrs. Bigger of Penarth for use by handicapped persons attending Holly House and the Barry Social/Handicraft Centres. The Neath Round Table again presented Christmas gifts to a number of handicapped persons living in the Neath area and, on your behalf, I sent letters of thanks for these acts of kindness.

Holidays for Handicapped Persons

Twenty-eight persons, including one married couple, were assisted to go on holiday this year at a cost to the Authority of £164. Generally, the applications for grant were related to the cost of travelling expenses but in two instances assistance was granted towards the cost of accommodation. On several occasions where the handicapped person could not travel alone you authorised provision of escorts for the journey. The following letter speaks for itself :—

“ I would like you to accept these few lines on behalf of myself and my husband in appreciation and thanks for enabling us to have a holiday in September. It is nine years ago now since my husband was taken ill and he has not been able to get about, and

this holiday has been to him one of the biggest thrills of his life, not only for going to see our daughter in her own home, but also for being able to see many places he would have never seen but for your help.

We would also like you to pass on our thanks to British Railways for the many kindnesses given to us in our journey to and from Paddington, and to our Welfare Officer at B."

Wireless for the Bedridden Society

I am pleased again to refer to the cordial relationship and effective arrangements which exist between this Society and the Authority. The Society this year supplied and installed six sets and met the cost of wireless licences where appropriate.

Handicrafts

A variety of handicraft was practised and enjoyed by handicapped persons, at home and at the Centres. Sales of materials purchased in bulk by the Department during the year amounted to £742. To encourage handwork a free initial issue of materials is made. The following analysis of free initial issues for the year is of interest as it reveals how a current popularity of canework articles has created a demand to learn the craft. A trend I noted last year, i.e., diversification of crafts practised by handicapped persons — has continued ; use of scrap materials, e.g., nylon waste, has been extended and articles such as lamp shades, tea-cosies and stool tops have been produced from this material.

Free Initial Issues for the year ended 31st March :—

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Rug Making ..	79	86	83	87	61
Wood Assembly and Woodwork ..	192	93	64	56	13
Leatherwork ..	12	20	23	22	19
Embroidery ..	16	19	19	29	18
Jewellery	4	11	3	1	—
Soft Toys	12	4	6	15	3
Canework	—	1	—	—	16
Knitting Materials	—	1	—	—	2
Tapestry Work ..	—	—	—	—	2
Seagrass Stools ..	—	—	—	—	27
	<hr/> 315	<hr/> 235	<hr/> 198	<hr/> 210	<hr/> 161

Interest in pastime handicrafts is apparent from the following reports :—

" Requests for leek emblems for St. David's Day were so numerous this year that the Centre members were unable to make sufficient in time, and several homebound persons were given the opportunity of assisting in their making, the materials being provided by the

Centre. There is a very ready market for all commodities produced, and even a waiting list for some articles, which shows the high standard achieved."

"... Woodwork is successfully being undertaken and the small children's garages are of quite good quality. Soft toys, tea-cosies, toilet bags and artificial flowers are all being made out of plastic foam by the ladies of the Centre and this is an extremely popular craft...."

"This Centre is interested in craftwork, and very few purely social afternoons are spent here. During this quarter, the members have all worked very hard to maintain their high standard of work and the amount turned out for Christmas was very satisfactory: again, although many took work home and worked right up to Christmas Eve, we still failed to cope with all the orders for Christmas; jewellery, canework, stool-making, embroidery and knitting proved not only the most popular pastime hobbies but also the best sellers."

These reports reveal not only pride of achievement but, more important, a sense of belonging to a group working together for a common worthwhile purpose. Two extracts which follow reveal important effects on individuals in such groups, and confirm the view that the activities of your Social Centres are for many handicapped people an entrée to new and unexpected interests:—

"... The therapeutic value of a meeting point for handicapped persons, especially to those indulging in pastime occupations, cannot be over-estimated. The Vicar of P. has given as his opinion that the outlook on life of one of his parishioners — a sufferer from disseminated sclerosis — has undergone a radical change for the better by his attendance at the Centre."

"Mr. J., of B., recently had an operation for a brain tumour and on his discharge I received a message from the Almoner, asking if I would encourage him to do some handicrafts. It was decided to try rug-making and although the teaching proved rather difficult (as Mr. J. seems to work things out in direct opposition to what he really means) he did finish the rug and did it very well. He is now keen to try canework...."

The following concluding extract is of interest, revealing a possible new trend of development in the services for the disabled:—

"Craftwork plays an ever increasing part in the lives of both homebound and Centre members. On 4th November, a combined Sale of Work by Blind and Handicapped Persons was held at St. Fagan's Hall at A. This Sale was designed primarily to assist homebound persons to dispose of their work. A total of 15 such

handicapped persons submitted articles which covered most of the types of crafts carried out in the Area. Centre members co-operated and produced other articles, in order that buyers could have a considerable variety of choice.

I am pleased to report that the Sale was a great success, over 80 per cent of the articles submitted being sold. It has proved that a market is available for well-made, reasonably priced articles, and also provided valuable information about the types of craftwork more easily sold. The demand for several types of articles was far above the quantities available and orders were taken for later delivery. The receipt of cash for these articles has for some persons proved that their work is worthy of purchase and has provided the incentive they so badly need to make further efforts."

Aids to Overcome Handicaps

During the year a continuing and increasing demand for aids has been observed. Most new registrants have substantial disabilities, e.g., severe rheumatoid arthritis, poliomyelitis, disseminated sclerosis, and their aid requirements have been such as to keep your Technical Staff extremely busy this year.

The three Technical Assistants prescribe, as part of their duties, aids for production at the Treforest Workshops on a "made-to-measure" basis. Details given in the following Table show clearly the growth and range of production produced in the past three years.

Aids Department, Treforest Workshops

Aids manufactured during the year ended 31st March :—

	1959	1960	1961
(a) Dressing Aids	71	44	86
(b) Personal Aids	43	24	29
(c) Feeding Aids	48	59	125
(d) Craft Aids	7	10	11
(e) Domestic Aids	10	17	58
(f) Reaching Aids	28	73	88
(g) Rests	14	11	13
(h) Tables (Welfare Services) ..	6	45	17
(i) Writing Aids	9	7	10
(j) Steps, Ramps, Platforms ..	12	7	17
(k) Domestic Trolleys	17	2	6
(l) Shoe Lift/Washing Aids ..	—	50	102
(m) Bath Seats and inside Bath Stools	—	20	62
(n) Self-Lifting Hoists and Hoist Frames	—	—	8
(o) Modifications and Repairs ..	—	56	34
<i>Total</i> ..	<hr/> 265 <hr/>	<hr/> 425 <hr/>	<hr/> 666 <hr/>

Whilst the overall increase year by year revealed by the above Table appears satisfactory, the demand continues to outstrip supply and in this knowledge you authorised the employment of a third Journeyman, a disabled man who after training started work at Treforest in January last.

Additional to the 666 aids manufactured for use by handicapped persons, some thirty specimen aids were made to be included in a demonstration set illustrating lectures given by officers of the Department. Members will be conscious of an increasing call being made by outside bodies to know more about this aspect of your welfare services and during the year lecture-demonstrations were given, for instance, at an Annual Conference of Occupational Therapists at Cardiff, to Medical and Nursing Staff of a geriatric unit at Ystrad Mynach, and a number of local organisations interested in social welfare. In October, with your permission, the Senior Technical Assistant appeared in "Here Today," a T.W.W. magazine television programme during which he demonstrated certain aids and outlined your welfare services for the handicapped. The programme aroused great interest and a number of requests for advice and help were subsequently received. Later, the programme compère enquired whether a writing aid could be provided for a friend, a celebrated concert pianist, who is now handicapped by right hemiplegia. A suitable writing board with a magnet grip was made for him and presented during a television broadcast.

Evidence is abundant that many handicapped people are ignorant of modern devices and methods by which their disabilities may be lessened, and I am certain that your continued support of this service is fully justified. I quote from reports :—

"Mrs. G. suffers badly from osteo-arthritis and has had both knees ankylosed to relieve her of pain. Before being supplied with aids she was to all intents and purposes helpless, as nearly every joint is arthritic. The following aids with which she has been issued give a good indication of the extent of her disability :—Long-handled comb, stocking dressing aid, shoe lift/washing aid, vegetable potato peeler, cantilever table, bath seat, bath stool, stair climbing aid, and a raised lavatory seat.

With the help of these aids, she finds that she has become largely independent of her help from others and she is, of course, very grateful for the help given by this Authority."

"Blodwen :—Shoe lift/washing aid, stocking pull-on, W.S. table, enlarged handle spoon and fork, stair climbing aid. Miss P. is a deaf person who is also badly crippled with rheumatoid arthritis. Despite her multiple handicaps, she is always ready to attempt to overcome these disabilities and when the above aids were provided she began to use them immediately. Her back is locked in such a position that she could only crouch at a table to eat her meals but now that she has a W.S. table she can take her meals in an armchair in a normal position. To climb stairs was a task of some magnitude

previously, but now with the provision of a stair climbing aid this is easily performed. Miss P. is delighted with the progress she has made using these few simple aids and it is a pleasure to see the independence they have brought to her."

Another Officer's report reads :—

" A person suffering from Parkinson's Disease was granted a special reacher and she is finding this a most useful aid.

A severe chronic arthritic case granted a Welfare Services reacher.

A handicapped lady, suffering from a left hemiplegia, and in very poor physical condition, granted an embroidery/darning aid, book-rest, and egg-holder. This handicapped person is now able to embroider and is making good use of the other aids ; she is, indeed, most grateful for the aids supplied and the interest taken.

Registered handicapped person suffering from right hemiplegia, right hand and arm affected, is also very depressed. He has been granted the loan of a writing aid to occupy his time with a little writing, thus relieving his depression.

Another chronic arthritic case granted a shoe-lift/washing aid and stocking dressing aid for which most grateful thanks are expressed. . . ."

Since the inception of this service a relatively small number of commercially manufactured aids have been purchased to meet the known need which does not depend on the purpose-designed article. During the twelve months under review an additional 39 " Cee Vee Reachers " were purchased, making a total of 164 now on issue. Eighteen Cantilever tables, an invaluable assistance to severely handicapped persons confined to a bed or wheel-chair, were issued, making a total of 40 at present on loan. Additionally, 115 aids of a general pattern were obtained from the Ministry of Labour for issue to persons not requiring individually designed aids. Reports on this subject read as follows :—

" Mr. B. W., who worked as a steeplejack, suffered spinal injury rendering him paraplegic. He is very grateful for the Cee Vee Reacher supplied, as with this aid he finds he can now do little tasks such as adjusting bedclothes, drawing curtains, etc., without the help of his wife and this independence means a great deal to him."

" Mr. R. T., who has suffered from Parkinson's Disease for the past ten years, is extremely pleased with the aids he has been loaned by the Welfare Services Department. His one big problem was to hold a book or newspaper steady when reading. This was overcome by supplying him with a Cantilever table which he finds invaluable for reading and eating. Other aids which he finds of considerable help are a plate holder, food stop and shoe-lift washing aid."



A TAILOR-MADE OVER-BED HOIST

I am hoping that in the next twelve months the production of aids will meet demands in the County but it is difficult to be precise on this point owing to the constantly changing pattern of requirement.

Adaptations to Homes of Handicapped Persons

Adaptations to homes of handicapped persons is work closely allied to provision of personal aids: both are designed to afford a greater measure of comfort and convenience to handicapped persons in their homes, viz. :—

“ These few lines are very inadequate to express my thanks for what has been done for me by your Welfare Services.

I have received various aids (11 in all) from Mr. Gibbon (the Technical Assistant), which help me a great deal. The handrails were put up last week and I have not such a dread of the stairs now, they are of great benefit. It means a great deal to know when one is not able to get around so much that there are people who are interested in helping us. I would like to thank all the kind people who have been here, and trust you will accept these few lines.

Yours sincerely,

Miss J. O.”

This year works of adaptation were approved in 17 instances making a total of 70 undertaken since 1954; particulars of the work undertaken are given opposite. In this context I would like to pay tribute to the excellent relationship existing between the Authority and the Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation. The latter body is always willing to consider making a grant towards the cost of adaptations to the home of a person who became disabled whilst employed in the coal industry. The grant is usually in the region of 50 per cent of the total cost.

Employment of Handicapped Persons

A close and harmonious relationship continues between your Social Welfare Officers and the Disablement Re-settlement Service of the Ministry of Labour and the County Youth Employment Service. Whilst many handicapped persons are able to obtain employment in the usual way, there remains a number whose maintenance of suitable employment is hazardous and dependent on the teamwork of certain officials. Constant regard is had to those handicapped persons employable but unemployed, and particularly to those who may become employable after rehabilitation.

The following report is self-explanatory and illustrative of the effectiveness of a supporting relationship :—

“ I am now able to report a happy outcome of Winston B's circumstances with which I have closely interested myself during the last three years. Winston, aged 48, last worked as a collier's assistant at a colliery near N., in November, 1930. Registered as

ADAPTATIONS TO HOMES OF HANDICAPPED PERSONS

Persons Assisted	Disability	Nature of Adaptations	Cost	Remarks
Mr. A.	Paraplegia	Adaptations to enable handicapped person to move from room to room with greater freedom and gain access to bathroom and W.C.	£ s. d. 128 15 8	County Council met whole of cost
Mr. B.	Double amputation of legs and Coronary Thrombosis	Provision of two portable wooden ramps from house entrance to pavement	11 0 0	County Council met whole of cost
Miss C.	Fractured Neck	Adaptations to enable her to gain easier access to bathroom	83 14 0	County Council to meet 4/5ths of cost, applicant to meet balance
Miss D.	Rheumatoid Arthritis	Provision of handrail to back garden steps	6 12 0	County Council met whole of cost
Mr. E.	Left Hemiplegia	Provision of handrails on stairs	7 3 0	County Council to meet £6 1s. 6d. of cost, applicant to pay balance of £1 1s. 6d.
Mr. F.	Ventral Hernia and Chronic Bronchitis	Provision of bar over bath to take self-lifting hoist	2 17 9	County Council met 50% of cost, Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation met 50% of cost
Mr. G.	Paraplegia	Provision of handrails on stairs	18 14 0	County Council met 50% of cost, Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation met 50% of cost
Mr. H.	Right Hemiplegia	Provision of handrails on stairs	8 15 0	County Council met 50% of cost, Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation met 50% of cost
Mr. I.	Right Hemiplegia	Provision of handrails on stairs	2 4 0	County Council met whole of cost
Mr. J.	Arthritis	Provision of handrails on stairs	9 0 0	County Council to meet £6 15s. 0d., applicant to meet balance of £2 5s. 0d.
Miss K.	Paralysis and Duodenal Ulcer	Lowering of road curb to permit easier access to garage	5 0 0	County Council met whole of cost
Miss L.	Rheumatoid Arthritis and Asthma	Provision of handrails on stairs and back garden steps	12 13 0	County Council met whole of cost
Miss M.	Rheumatoid Arthritis	Provision of handrail on front garden steps	7 14 0	County Council met whole of cost
Mr. N.	Paraplegia	Provision of handrails on either side of ramp	10 0 0	County Council to pay £2 10s. Applicant to pay £2 10s. Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation to pay £5 0s. 0d.
Mrs. O.	Ulcerated left leg ; right leg few inches shorter than left	Provision of handrails on stairs, heightening level of sink and tap	12 2 0	County Council met full cost
Mr. P.	Right Hemiplegia	Provision of handrails along one side of garden path	13 4 0	County Council to pay £3 19s. 8d. Applicant to meet balance
Miss R.	Infantile Paralysis and Double Hernia	Lengthening of existing concrete ramp	19 16 0	County Council met full cost
			£359 4 5	

suffering from Parkinson's Disease, he has failed to follow any form of employment for over 30 years, and for over 12 years he has been unable to dress, wash, shave or feed himself. Following a successful brain operation under the National Health Scheme at the West End Hospital for Neurology and Neuro-Surgery, in July, 1959, Mr. B. is now able to wash, shave, feed and dress himself unaided.

In November, 1959, he was registered under the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1944 ; following an interview by the Ministry of Labour's Panel in December, 1960, he commenced work on the 12th December, 1960, for the first time in 30 years, being employed as a trainee French Polisher with Remploi Limited."

In this instance members of the Staff acted on behalf of Mr. B in his relations with other bodies, and also as escorts in the various journeys made. It seems to illustrate the effectiveness of liaison between your Officers and various welfare agencies.

Sighted Disabled Journeymen/Journeywomen

It is your policy to integrate sighted disabled handicapped persons into your Workshops for the Blind on the understanding that the position of blind journeyworkers will not be prejudiced thereby. Now there are fifteen physically handicapped persons employed, an increase of one journeyworker over the previous year.

The Table on page 61 indicates the type of work undertaken at the Workshops by the sighted disabled.

2. WELFARE OF THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING

The fundamental needs of the deaf are best met by facilitating their maximum participation in the activities of normal hearing society — an attainment not easily achieved ! The deaf person's lack of language and difficulties of communication make any social welfare action a time-consuming affair, and officers must take care not to usurp the individual's rights and privacy. In the year under review your Officers engaged on this work made some progress towards this difficult goal, working effectively and harmoniously with other agencies to secure for deaf persons the highest level of normality.

I now quote at length from a report received during the year from your Technical Assistant for the Deaf which reveals how a quite trivial matter can assume undesirable proportions with possible unpleasant repercussions. This is an instance where kindness and reason are unavailing without the expertise of a specialist welfare officer :—

" I had an S O S from the Personnel Manager of a clothing factory in C., who was having difficulty with one of their deaf employees. This young man had been employed at the factory for a number of years and was known as a good, reliable worker. The factory has always employed a number of deaf persons and there has always been close co-operation between the factory, the Social Welfare Officer and myself.

SIGHTED DISABLED JOURNEYMEN/WOMEN

Department	Commenced	Disabilities	Outline of Duties
Knitting — Treforest (5)	9th June, 1955	Paralysis	Finishing of Knitted Garments
	9th June, 1955	Deafness	Finishing of Knitted Garments
	12th February, 1959	Neurosis	Finishing of Knitted Garments
	6th July, 1959	Anxiety Neurosis	Finishing of Knitted Garments
	10th March, 1958	Valvular Disease of Heart	Finishing of Knitted Garments
Mat — Llwynypia (1)	13th December, 1954	Pneumoconiosis	Finishing and Trimming of Mats
Brush — Llwynypia (5)	20th May, 1959	Nervous Debility	Brush journeymen. Their work can be divided into two categories—(a) Bass work (heavy brooms) and (b) Bristle and hair work (clothes brushes, etc.). They sit round a pan of warm pitch. Here the bristles are dipped into the warm pitch and fitted into the head of the brush.
	17th November, 1958	Thrombo-Phlebitis	
	17th November, 1958	Arthritis	
	17th November, 1958	Cardiac Debility	
	1st January, 1957	Partially Sighted. Mentally Backward	
Basket — Treforest (1)	25th May, 1959	Partially Sighted (no deterioration of vision). Mentally Backward	Basket Journeyman. Makes pigeon baskets, laundry baskets, shopping baskets, etc.
Aids — Treforest (3)	9th December, 1959	Quiescent Tuberculosis	Aids: These men use their knowledge of working in plastic, metal and wood to construct aids to enable severely handicapped persons to overcome their disabilities
	23rd November, 1959	Dislocated left hip	
	23rd January, 1961	Heart Disease	

I went to the factory immediately and saw the Managers. They told me that they wished to move the deaf man — together with a number of other employees — from his usual work to another process in the factory where a bottleneck had arisen. This move was to be temporary — only a few days — and his pay would not suffer.

They reported that the man kept saying that Mr. D., the Social Welfare Officer, had told him that he would never be moved out but always be on the same machine. When I spoke to the deaf man, the explanation for his difficulty was found and the problem was soon solved. A year ago this young man was given his first 'permanent' job at the factory on a special pressing machine and the Management had called in Mr. D. to explain this new 'permanent' job to him. The deaf man did not know the word 'permanent' and what it meant, so Mr. D. had explained it using phrases like 'always on the same machine,' 'never move,' etc., and to this young man what Mr. D. said to him was what mattered !"

This storm in a teacup, as well as illustrating the difficulties of language exemplifies the trust and confidence in which your officers are held.

There are, however, more complicated cases to which your Social Welfare Officers for the Deaf are required to apply patience and skill over a considerable period, viz. :—

"... at least two weekly visits were made to the home of the young deaf unmarried mother threatened with eviction, together with visits to the Estate Agent responsible for the property. The negotiations for purchase have fallen through and the Agent is now applying for a Court Order. This young deaf mother continues to visit the A. Deaf Centre regularly with her baby and this contact with other deaf persons, besides helping her develop sign language, is also having an extremely beneficial effect on her.

With the help of the niece with whom she lives at present, we have started her education in money values, budgeting and household management. We are doing this bearing in mind the possibility that at some future date she and the baby might be on their own. She now has her National Assistance allowance to handle for herself — with guidance and instruction. She is not unintelligent and I am sure with intensive instruction she could learn to budget for herself. There is no problem about housework, looking after the baby and cooking. This she does alone and always has done so. . . ."

The division of responsibility between your Social Welfare Officers for the Deaf, their case-loads and other relevant details are shown in Table IV in the Appendix. The number of visits made by them during the year totalled 1,930 as compared with 2,294, 2,283 and 1,803 in the three previous years.

Summer Outings, Inter-Centre Visits and Christmas Parties

In a joint summer outing 70 members of the Caerphilly and Treorchy Centres travelled to Hereford and spent a most enjoyable time. The Aberdare and Briton Ferry Centres also combined and 40 of their members went to the Wye Valley, whilst the Barry Hard of Hearing Centre, numbering 37 members, journeyed to Hereford and Tintern. All the outings were extremely successful.

A number of inter-centre visits were also made and were greatly enjoyed, particularly as some members were able to renew old friendships. Several visits to factories were also made by Centres and these proved to be of great interest.

At Christmas time members of the Aberdare, Caerphilly, Treorchy and Briton Ferry Centres had a Joint Party at St. Martin's Church Hall, Caerphilly, and forty-one members of the Barry Hard of Hearing Centre held their party at St. Mary's Church Hall, Barry.

Of the Joint Party of Deaf Centres it was reported :—

“... There were more than 120 persons present and although there is always the fear of large gatherings such as this becoming too unwieldy, every effort should be made to continue this joint party. This Christmas Party and the inter-centre visits are the only opportunities most of the deaf have for meeting old friends. The pleasure given by these reunions is overwhelming and is reflected in the lively contented faces of the deaf persons present. . . .”

Centres for the Deaf

On page 99, Table V, particulars of the Centres for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing are given. Members will note that all Centres, except one, have increased their average attendances and the considerable increase in average attendance at the Barry Hard of Hearing Centre fully justifies the decision to run a Centre specifically for the Hard of Hearing.

As the majority of the registered deaf are in employment during the day your Social Centres for the Deaf meet in the evening to play games, to watch film shows, participate in corporate activities, and above all, “talk.” Sessions also provide opportunities for your officers to acclimatise members to the customary stresses and strains of everyday life. This is an important aspect of welfare of the Deaf and useful experimentation is currently being undertaken in this field, as is illustrated in the following reports :—

“... An interesting experiment at the Centre looks like continuing and extending successfully. Some months ago an elderly, lonely, hard of hearing couple started attending the Centre. They have been accepted by the deaf members of the Centre and fit into the Centre atmosphere happily and naturally this has had an extraordinarily beneficial effect on this old couple's lives and their regular presence at the Centre can only have a beneficial effect on the Centre as a whole and its individual deaf members. Now another hard of hearing elderly man has attended the Centre for three weeks and looks like becoming a regular member. I am watching the Centre with interest to see how far we can develop this Centre with the two groups but still maintaining a happy contented Centre. It is, of course, important that we do not have the Centre dividing into two separate sections, but if the Social Welfare Officer continues his present policy of introducing just one or two hard of hearing persons from time to time, this will not happen. . . .”

“ . . . This Centre maintained a regular attendance of twenty-five during April and I have reason to believe that this attendance will increase to 30 plus for the summer and autumn months. A small group of the younger members has continued the cane work recently introduced and some excellent baskets and pot holders have been made. The average age at this Centre is high and many of the members live alone. For these persons, the usual loneliness of old age is exaggerated by their deafness and this weekly social gathering is a great boon to these older members, and it is very gratifying to find friendships being made amongst the members which provide companionship during the week.”

A somewhat unusual aspect of welfare work is reported by your Technical Assistant :—

“ . . . During July, I was very grateful for the opportunity of accompanying a deaf person for his Ministry of Transport driving test. The test was on Tuesday, 19th July, at 4.45 p.m., and I also arranged to go with this young deaf man from B., for his final lesson with his driving school the day before the test.

This was the first time the examiner had been called upon to test a totally deaf person with the use of a third person as interpreter and the first time I had acted in this capacity. I am happy to report that the driving test itself and the questions which followed went without a hitch. I was very apprehensive when we met the heavy 5 p.m. traffic on C. road but the young deaf man drove superbly and showed excellent traffic sense, and passed his test on the first attempt ! ”



THE "MEET" AT HOLLY HOUSE





CRAFTS PRACTISED BY THE GENERALLY HANDICAPPED



SCENE AT A CENTRE FOR THE HANDICAPPED

WELFARE OF THE BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED

In the Foreword to this Report, I have drawn attention to the Report of the Ministry of Health's Working Party on Social Workers in Local Authority Health and Welfare Services, commonly known as the "Younghusband Report." The Working Party considered closely the existing blind welfare services. It came to no absolute conclusions, but recommended a variety of experiment in Home Teaching Services. Broader training was clearly desirable for Home Teachers, particularly in matters common to all Social Welfare Officers. It appeared to the Working Party, for instance, that training was narrowly based and the time devoted to the learning of Braille and Moon was not entirely justifiable today, having regard to the relatively small numbers of persons requiring this service. It was the considered opinion of the Working Party that the Blind would benefit if the services were staffed by officers who had a more substantial training in social work, on which basic qualification could be imposed specialist training. At this point of time, however, the Working Party felt unable to make clear recommendations and it would be a matter for local decision as to whether all workers with the blind should be qualified to teach Braille and Moon or whether only a proportion should be so equipped.

For several years I have been conscious of the almost identical responsibilities of Home Teachers of the Blind and Social Welfare Officers for the Handicapped. Virtually all that is different in their respective functions is the Home Teachers' responsibility to teach Braille and Moon and only a handful of blind persons in the County require this service.

The running of separate visiting services for the blind and handicapped as separate entities is, in the light of the similarity of function of the officers concerned, extremely wasteful of skill and manpower. By Ministry direction Home Teachers must not be employed other than in the field of blind welfare without express authority, and I hope that it will, in the near future, be possible to rationalise this anomalous position.

Irrespective of staffing aspects of the service, it is clear that in the future increased attention must be given to the needs of the aged blind. The complex of age with blindness has yet to be fully appreciated and investigated. Special facilities for the aged blind must inevitably spring from such research : pending these developments the best contribution to be made at present is that of ensuring that the quality and extent of the case-work of Home Teachers is as satisfactory as can be devised.

Registration

The Department's Registers and detailed records of Blind and Partially Sighted Persons form a basis on which your Scheme of Welfare Services operates. On the 31st March, 1961, there were 2,101 Blind Persons and 647 Partially Sighted Persons on the respective Registers. Tables VI and XII in the Appendix to this Report analyse these figures into Age Groups, Sex, etc., on the lines submitted annually to the Ministry of Health.

The Table below shows the trend of registrations during the past ten years. This year's figures invite attention and conjecture for, for the first time in 13 years, although there is an overall increase of 56, there is a net decrease in registration of blind persons of 38. The monthly figures from which this final net decrease of 38 is derived, have shown a fairly consistent downward trend since February, 1960, at which time the register stood at 2,160. Against this trend the Table reveals a net increase of partially sighted persons of 94. As the comparable national figures of blind and partially sighted persons will not be available until late this summer, an examination of the County figures against the national background cannot yet be made.

The numbers of blind and partially sighted persons added to the Registers this year is found in Tables VII and XIII in the Appendix, analysed in Age Groups.

Table VII reveals that the majority of the 249 blind persons registered for the first time, were aged 70 years or over, i.e., 72% of the year's new registrations. The comparable figures for the previous four years were respectively 70%, 71%, 71% and 69%. In the last three years, the proportion of newly-registered blind persons over 80 years of age has approximated to one third, and the proportion is growing. It is notable also that the "90+" registrations have nearly doubled the previous annual figure of 10.

REGISTERS OF BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED PERSONS TREND OF REGISTRATIONS

Date	Number of Blind Persons on Register	Net Increase over previous Year	Number of Partially Sighted Persons on Register	Net Increase over previous Year
31st March, 1952	1,591	40	136	63
31st March, 1953	1,639	48	281	145
31st March, 1954	1,690	51	334	53
31st March, 1955	1,726	36	376	42
31st March, 1956	1,791	65	421	45
31st March, 1957	1,907	116	432	11
31st March, 1958	1,974	67	443	11
31st March, 1959	2,045	71	482	39
31st March, 1960	2,139	94	553	71
31st March, 1961	2,101	38 (Net Decrease)	647	94

The Table on page 72 (Additions and Deductions to the County Register of Blind and Partially Sighted Persons) with Table VII in the Appendix reveals the many changes which take place in the actual persons represented by the figures. The total number of Blind and Partially Sighted persons on the Registers, however, varies from year to year only to the extent of the net increases shown.

Notifications of suspected blindness — mainly received from the Area Office Managers of the National Assistance Board — are referred to the County Medical Officer who arranges for examinations by a qualified member of his staff or by a Consultant Ophthalmologist. The Table below records the results of the examinations for the year ended 31st March, 1961.

SOURCES AND RESULTS OF NOTIFICATIONS OF SUSPECTED BLINDNESS

Notification from	Total	Result of Examination		
		Blind	Partially Sighted	Not Blind
National Assistance Board	195	88	77	30
Staff of Welfare Services Department	184	93	56	35
Person affected or near relative	18	11	6	1
Medical Practitioner (including County Medical Officer)	27	14	9	4
Voluntary Agencies	18	12	5	1
Miscellaneous	14	7	6	1
Persons examined in year ended 31st March, 1961	456	*225	159	72
Corresponding data relating to year ending 31st March, 1960	418	239	131	48

*Excludes 40 Partially Sighted Persons found to be Blind on Re-examination.

Blind Register — General

The administrative work undertaken by the County Medical Officer as School Medical Officer in relation to the education of blind children is given in Table X in the Appendix.

Table XI relates to blind persons over the age of 16 who are not living at home. Of these, 57 blind persons are in Homes administered by the Glamorgan Authority (a figure unchanged from the previous year), and ten persons are in specialised Homes for the Blind. Seventeen persons are in Hospitals for the Mentally Ill or Mentally Sub-normal and 22 are in other Hospitals. Of the 2,101 persons on the Blind Register, about a quarter (588), have other disabilities: 372 are physically defective and 33 are mentally disordered.

The Register also includes the names of 19 deaf/blind persons, 125 blind persons also hard of hearing, and 41 with multiple disabilities. The majority of these severely handicapped people are confined to their homes and receive special care and attention from your Home Teaching Staff.

THE COUNTY REGISTER OF BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED PERSONS

ADDITIONS AND DEDUCTIONS

BLIND		PARTIALLY SIGHTED	
The total number of cases on the Register at 31st March, 1960, was		The total number of cases on the Register at 31st March, 1960, was	
During the year there were :		During the year there were :	
ADDITIONS		ADDITIONS	
As a result of Ophthalmic Examinations ..	257	As a result of Ophthalmic Examinations ..	183
Persons moving into the County area ..	16	Persons moving into the County area ..	3
.. Not Blind .. cases found to be blind on re-examination	5	.. Not Blind .. cases found to be partially sighted on re-examination	4
Partially Sighted cases found to be blind on re-examination	40	Blind cases found to be partially sighted on re-examination	10
	— 318		— 200
DEDUCTIONS		DEDUCTIONS	
Blind Persons deceased	309	Partially Sighted persons deceased	48
Left County area	35	Left County area	16
Not blind on re-examination	2	Not partially sighted on re-examination	2
Partially Sighted on re-examination	10	Blind on re-examination	40
	— 356		— 106
Giving a Net decrease of	38	Giving a Net Increase of	94
Total number of cases on the Register at 31st March, 1961	2,101	Total number of cases on the Register at 31st March, 1961	647

Partially Sighted Register — General

The Ministry of Health require this Register to be kept in the following form :—

	1957-58	1958-59	1959-60	1960-61
Persons near and prospectively blind (aged 16 and over) ..	154	180	186	205
Persons mainly industrially handicapped and in respect of whom there is not likely to be any deterioration of vision (aged 16 and over)	43	59	105	165
Persons requiring observation only (aged 16 and over) ..	218	216	233	246
Children aged 5 and under 16	25	23	26	29
Children aged 16 and over still at school	3	4	3	2
	<hr/> 443 <hr/>	<hr/> 482 <hr/>	<hr/> 553 <hr/>	<hr/> 647 <hr/>

3. WELFARE OF THE BLIND

Home Teaching Service

I would first refer to the retirement from your Home Teaching Service of two long-serving members of your Staff, Miss C. Edwards — “ Nurse Edwards ” to the blind people of Port Talbot area — and Miss A. Morris. Miss Edwards joined the Glamorgan County Council service in 1924 and Miss Morris in 1926, transferring full-time to Welfare Services as qualified Home Teachers of the Blind in 1950 and 1954 respectively. Another Home Teacher, Miss M. Monk, resigned her appointment to train for the teaching profession. This was a serious loss to your service and one regretted by the many blind people whom they served.

In June, 1960, therefore, you considered various matters affecting staffing of the service and case-loads in particular, and decided to increase the establishment of Home Teachers from 14 to 16. In December you received a report, arising from a visit paid by two Officers of the Ministry of Health, in which the Authority was congratulated “ on the provision of a comprehensive and efficiently administered service ” for blind people. The Ministry drew attention, however, to the heavy case-loads carried by your Home Teachers and, after a full examination of the circumstances, the County Council decided to raise the establishment in the next financial year from the existing level of 16 officers to 22.

Despite difficulties affecting staff I am happy to report the quality of the service given to the care of the Blind and Partially Sighted in the County is generally sound. What is now required is an extension of effective visitation, which in turn will, I am satisfied, go a long way to solve the day-to-day problems of that increasing problem, the care of the home-bound aged blind.

The wide range of professional knowledge and the specialist abilities called for from Home Teachers in their daily work is illustrated in the following extract from their report :—

“ . . . Two hundred and eighty-nine visits were made during the quarter. Again priority was given to the sick, the infirm and the lonely. Blind persons who regularly attend Social Centres were visited only when business had to be discussed. In all homes the welcome is friendly, and in many cases the difficulty lies in making a tactful and gracious exit. . . . ”

“ . . . One of my blind people had a seizure, causing paralysis of the right side. After a few weeks, I advised her to do some exercises gradually, such as keeping a ball in her hand a few times during the day, so as to strengthen her grip and try to walk a few steps. Now she is able to move about with the husband's help and is very pleased with herself. . . . ”

“ . . . I have endeavoured, with the time at my disposal in the quarter, to concentrate more fully on visits as seen below. The number of instructional visits has risen with a corresponding fall in the number of general visits.

General visits	..	..	..	151
Special visits	..	..	..	32
Visits in co-operation with other				
Departments	..	..		20
Instructional (braille, handicrafts)				40

Duties ranged from assistance with the repair of braille watches, obtaining aids and appliances to overcome blindness, reduction and payment of relay rentals, advice on medical examinations and on certain personal matters. Assistance was also given on matters relating to burial, and to hire purchase repayments for electrical appliances, and optical repairs.”

“ . . . I have referred four cases to the Borough Council where housing conditions are insanitary and action is being taken under the Public Health Act.

The main cause for complaint was chronic dampness coupled with a general lack of repairs.

I have also served on a landlord a request for repairs to be carried out under the Rent Act, 1957.”

“ . . . Following my recommendation, a newly registered blind person, aged 59 years, has had Braille attachments for her electric stove supplied free of charge by the makers. Previously, when her husband was at work, she has had to rely on anyone who chanced to call — the baker, butcher or coalman, etc. Now, with this aid, she has regained her independence and is really delighted that she has not got to worry anyone. . . . ”

HOME TEACHING SERVICE TO THE BLIND, 1961

Area to which Home Teacher is officially attached	District	Home Teacher	Case Load		Total Case Load		Responsible for Social/Handicraft Centre
			Registered Blind Persons	Registered Partially Sighted Persons	1960-61	1959-60	
					171	229	
ABERDARE AND CAERPHILLY AND GELLIGAER	Hirwaun to Abercwmboi	Mr. T. J. John	132	39	119	229	Aberdare
	Rhymney Valley, Ystrad Mynach	Mrs. S. M. Grace	84	35	116	195	Bargoed
	Aber Valley, Caerphilly, Nelson	Mr. D. C. G. Davies	85	31	167	—	Caerphilly
	Mountain Ash to Abercynon	Mrs. S. E. Morgan	135	32	156	162	Mountain Ash
BRIDGEND AND SOUTH-EAST GLAMORGAN	Llynfi Valley, Porthcawl, Pyle, Kenlig, Cefn Cribbwr, Ewenny, Southerndown and Ogmore	Miss M. Davies	118	38	166	163	Maesteg
	Ogmore and Garw Valleys, Bridgend, Pencoe, Coychurch and Llanharry	Miss W. M. Lewis	129	37	208	187	Bridgend
	Barry, Cowbridge and Llantwit Major	Mr. G. N. M. White	129	33	211	268	Barry
	Penarth, Whitechurch and Radyr	Mr. C. Robinson (Trainee)	116	28	199	—	Penarth and Whitechurch
NEATH AND WEST GLAMORGAN	Vale of Neath, Dulais Valley, Swansea Valley north of Pontardawe Cross	Miss L. Bevan	155	53	206	216	Resolven and Pontardawe
	Port Talbot and Afan Valley	Mrs. G. Soderstrom	152	54	201	211	Port Talbot
	West Glamorgan area less Swansea Valley north of Pontardawe Cross	Mr. S. James	151	48	194	190	Gorseinon
	Borough of Neath, Skewen, Briton Ferry	Mr. T. Bird	137	64	168	194	Neath
PONTYPRIDD AND RHONDDA	Pontypridd area (Pontyclun to Ynysybwl, includes Trehaed)	Mr. R. Matthews	148	46	158	182	Pontypridd Social Centre & Pontypridd Handicraft Centre
	Porth, Cymmer, Ynysibir, Pontygwaith, Tylorstown, Blaenllechau, Ferndale, Maerdy, Dinas	Mr. E. N. Jones	122	36	213	152	Porth
	Blaenrhondda, Blaencwm, Treherbert, Cwmparc, Pentre, Ystrad, Gelli, Llwynypia (includes 48 Llwynypia journeymen not visited)	Mr. R. Scarle	175	38	168	196	Llwynypia
	Blaenclydach, Clydach Vale, Treallaw, Tonypandy, Penygraig, Trebanog, Giffach Goch, Evanstown, Tonyrefail	Mrs. J. Davies	133	35	2,748	147	Llwynypia
			2,101	647	2,748	2,692	

SOCIAL HANDICRAFT CENTRES FOR THE BLIND, 1961

Area	Town	Venue	Day & Time	Home Teacher	Activities	Average Attendance of Blind Persons and Guides		
						1958-59	1959-60	1960-61
ABERDARE AND CAERPHILLY	Aberdare	Social Centre for the Blind 35 Victoria Square	Tuesday, 2.30 p.m.	Mr. T. J. John	Handicrafts	29	29	29
	Mountain Ash	Social Service Club, Ifor Street	Wednesday, 2.30 p.m.	Mrs. S. E. Morgan	Social and Handicrafts	22	35	36
	Caerphilly	Old National Schoolroom, Park Lane	Thursday, 2.30 p.m.	Mr. D. C. G. Davies	Social and Handicrafts	24	28	34
	Bargoed	Bargoed Institute and Library, Cardiff Road	Tuesday, 2.30 p.m.	Mrs. S. M. Grace	Social	52	53	47
BRIDGEND AND SOUTH-EAST GLAM.	Maesteg	St. John Ambulance Hall	Thursday, 2.30 p.m.	Miss M. Davies	Handicrafts	36	30	31
	Bridgend	Drill Hall, Derwen Road	Tuesday, 2.30 p.m.	Miss W. M. Lewis	Social and Handicrafts	59	58	48
	Barry	Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry Dock	Tuesday, 1.30 p.m.	Mr. G. N. M. White	Social and Handicrafts	57	55	71
	Penarth	Tabernacle Baptist Church Hall, Plassey Street	Friday, 2.30 p.m.	Mr. C. Robinson (Trainee)	Social and Handicrafts	32	32	27
NEATH AND WEST GLAM.	Whitechurch	Ararat Baptist Church Schoolroom, The Common, Whitechurch	Thursday, 2.30 p.m.	Mr. C. Robinson (Trainee)	Social	19	18	21
	Neath	Moose Hall, Neath	Monday, 2.30 p.m.	Mr. T. Bird	Social	41	40	31
	Resolven	St. John Ambulance Hall	Thursday, 2.30 p.m.	Miss L. Bevan	Social and Handicrafts	13	16	15
	Port Talbot	Y.W.C.A., Station Road	Tuesday, 2.30 p.m.	Mrs. G. E. Soderstrom	Social and Handicrafts	37	34	40
PONTYPRIDD AND RHONDDA	Pontardawe	Pontardawe Public Hall and Institute	Wednesday, 2.30 p.m.	Miss L. Bevan	Handicrafts	17	18	21
	Gorseinon	St. Catherine's Church Hall	Thursday, 2.30 p.m.	Mr. S. James	Handicrafts	15	15	19
	Pontypridd	Holly House, 98 Merthyr Road	Tuesday 2.30 p.m. (Open Monday to Friday, 2-9 p.m.)	Mr. R. Matthews	Social	62	44	51
	Pontypridd	Holly House, 98 Merthyr Road	Monday, 2.30 p.m.	Mr. R. Matthews	Handicrafts	11	10	10
Porth	Llwynypia	Workshop for the Blind, Pontrhondda Road	Wednesday, 2.30 p.m.	Mrs. J. Davies and Mr. R. Scarle	Social and Handicrafts	39	31	29
	Porth	Porth and District Old People's Social Centre	Tuesday, 2.30 p.m.	Mr. E. N. Jones	Social	42	36	40

Often, the Home Teachers' negotiations involve close relations, as the following extracts reveal :—

“ . . . Miss C., one of a very independent family, buried her mother a few weeks ago, and lives alone. She has had a very sheltered life, had not been out of the house for 14 years. I have been making weekly visits there since her mother's death, and have persuaded her to visit the Social Centre. I have to fetch her and take her home ; she now looks forward to Wednesday afternoons, and the Centre activities. Although she has a home help every morning, I am very concerned about her loneliness and hope in the near future to find a suitable person or persons to live with her, which is a big problem. The Manager of Lloyd's Bank and her Minister, who are the Executors, are now interested in her welfare. . . . ”

“ . . . This is a 75 years old man living alone in home conditions which left much to be desired. He had suffered a cerebral episode and his daughter, living nearby in apartments, fulfilled her duties towards her father during the day, but was unable to give the constant attention needed as she has responsibilities toward her husband and four-year-old son. The solution to this problem was either Mr. — should be removed to a hospital for the chronic sick, or that his daughter and her family came to reside permanently with him.

Mr. — lives in a National Coal Board owned house and his daughter was not prepared to reside with him, unless in the event of Mr. —'s death, she would have the tenancy of the house. In view of this, I immediately sought interview with the Chief Estate Agent for the N.C.B. and, after discussion, it was agreed to call Mr. M.'s daughter for interview. As a result, she was granted the tenancy of the house, which has helped to solve both her father's and her own welfare needs. . . . ”

I receive from time to time letters, of which the following is a representative example :—

“ Dear Sirs,

I am writing on behalf of Mrs. D. who wishes me to convey her very sincere and grateful thanks for all the kindness and generosity shown to herself and her late husband since his loss of sight. He passed away on the 16th May. Particularly she would like to express her most grateful thanks to Mr. J. (*the Home Teacher*) for his extreme kindness and helpfulness for which we shall all be very grateful ; his personality helped her late husband during his affliction more than he realised.

Yours very sincerely ”

In all, 13,954 visits were made by the Teaching Staff during the year as compared with 13,696, 12,190 and 11,493 during the three previous years.

The Tables on page 74a give details of the Home Teaching Service and the Social Handicraft Centres for the Blind and may serve Members as a useful reference to the local arrangements.

Five trainees in service at the beginning of the year were examined in the summer of 1960. Two obtained the Home Teachers' Certificate of the College of Teachers of the Blind, one gaining four distinctions and the Arthur Pearson Prize, awarded to the candidate with the highest standards of proficiency in the Examination. Three candidates were referred in one subject only, which will be re-sat in July, 1961.

Training of Home Teachers

The Authority has for a period of ten years had difficulty in obtaining qualified Home Teachers and accordingly, in September, 1960, decided that in the absence of qualified applicants, suitable trainees should be appointed and given leave of absence with pay to attend either the Long or Short Courses organised by Regional Associations for the Blind. Complementary to this specialised training organised by the Regional Associations, it was agreed that your Supervisor/Trainer of Home Teachers would prepare candidates for acceptance at such courses and ensure that the practical work required prior to training is satisfactorily undertaken under proper supervision.

Within the scope of this Authority, in October, 1960, three trainees were appointed to undertake the training outlined. Following successful interviews, they are now attending a three-months course of training at Leeds organised by the North Regional Association for the Blind, and will sit the Home Teachers' Examination in July, 1961.

The syllabus of the Home Teaching Certificate requires candidates to satisfy the Examiners orally and in writing under three main headings :—

- (1) to show knowledge of and the ability to teach Braille and Moon systems ;
- (2) to possess a wide range of Professional Knowledge appertaining to the Blind, Deaf/Blind and Partially Sighted ; and
- (3) to show practical ability in appropriate home occupations, i.e., crafts, typewriting, etc.

Refresher Courses for Home Teachers

This year you authorised the attendance of two Home Teachers and the Supervisor/Trainer at a Refresher Course for Home Teachers of the Blind held at the University College of North Staffordshire, Keele, from the 23rd to the 29th March, 1961. The Course comprised lectures, instruction in various pastime occupations and practical discussions of general interest, all of which provided valuable opportunities for your Home Teachers to keep abreast of developments in blind welfare.

Education, Training and Rehabilitation of Blind Persons

Details of the work carried out in connection with the education, rehabilitation, training and employment of blind persons over the age of sixteen, are given in Table VIII. There were 110 males in employment at the 31st March, 1961, of whom 50 were engaged in "Open" and 60 in "Sheltered" employment. Of the 27 females employed, 8 were in "Open" employment and 19 in "Sheltered" employment.

Five blind men undertook this year, industrial rehabilitation courses run by the Royal National Institute for the Blind at Torquay. A similar course was also provided for three partially-sighted men who on medical evidence are likely to become blind within the next four years.

Of the blind rehabilitees, one has been placed in employment, one awaits an interview by the Institute's Selection Board, to be considered for training as a shorthand typist, and the remaining three were found to be "Not Capable of Employment." Of the three partially sighted rehabilitees, one is in employment, a second awaits further training, and the third is to be considered for "Sheltered Employment."

Five registered blind persons — one man, four women — went to the Institute's Centre at Oldbury Grange, Bridgnorth, for a course of social rehabilitation. One lady rehabilitee took her discharge after two weeks and two others completed the course at the end of March. Regarding the men it was reported :—

"Mr. J. C., of — — —, attended Oldbury Grange during this quarter. Blindness came suddenly to him in the midst of an active life, to make him very unhappy and over-dependent on his children. He has returned from Oldbury Grange a changed man, alert, confident, and full of plans for the future, to keep up the pastime occupations he was taught, and has become an avid Moon reader. A living testimony to the value of social rehabilitation."

Sixty males were provided with "Sheltered Employment" as compared with 61 last year and the number of journeywomen similarly employed remained at 19. Here I would like to acknowledge the support and co-operation which the Department receives in relation to employment of blind persons from the Ministry of Labour's Disablement Resettlement Service and the Royal National Institute for the Blind.

The total number of blind persons "Not Available for Work" or "Not Capable of Work" increases slowly in step with the growing number of aged blind people registered. The 1,481 persons shown in Column (p) "Not Working — 65 and Over" represent 71.9% of the grand total of 2,059 persons on the Register over the age of 16. The corresponding percentages over the past four years have been 71%, 69.8%, 68.4% and 66.1% respectively.

The total number of unemployed persons who are capable of and available for work is 11, all of them male. A year earlier this figure was 20, of whom 17 were male and 3 female. Such cases of unemployment remain under constant review by the Disablement Resettlement Service, The Royal National Institute for the Blind Placement Service and your Home Teaching Service.



BLIND SWITCHBOARD OPERATOR
BLIND ... TELEPHONE ...

Placement of Blind Persons in "Open" Employment

The Authority continues to use the Specialist Placement Service of the Royal National Institute for the Blind, for which is made an annual financial contribution in respect of each registered blind person between the ages of 16 and 59. For the year under review, the agreed amount for each blind person was £1 8s. 6d., making an annual contribution of £640.

Mr. W. J. Smith, the Institute's Placement Officer, effected nine placements and six replacements. In the course of his work for the Glamorgan employable blind he made 33 calls on blind persons, 615 calls and visits to local commercial and industrial firms and 129 calls on various local government bodies and voluntary organisations. Mr. E. Redford, the Institute's Training Officer, also assisted in the initial training of five blind persons and made nine "further training" and service calls.

Table IX in the Appendix provides additional information to that given in Column (d) of Table VIII.

The following Table shows the inter-relation between the numbers of registered blind persons in "Open" employment and those in "Sheltered" employment, which for present purposes means employment in three Workshops in Glamorgan, two of which fall under your direction within the administrative County.

Trend of "Sheltered" and "Open" Employment

<i>Persons Employed</i>	1950	1954	1958	1961
In "Sheltered" Employment..	126	98	88	79
In "Open" Employment ..	34	47	62	58
TOTALS	160	145	150	137

Members are fully conscious that for most adult blind persons employment in "Open industry" is the ideal to be sought, but there are some whose abilities and personalities are not suited to such employment and for them there exists the alternative of "Sheltered" employment. At the 31st March, 1961, only one blind person was awaiting entry into "Sheltered" employment in the County Workshops, and he has since been found employment.

Aids for the Blind

The Glamorgan Scheme of Welfare Services for the Blind provides for the loan of aids and implements to enable persons to overcome as far as possible their disabilities. The following aids issued during the year on indefinite loan are of undoubted help to blind people :—

154 Self-threading needles and darners

134 White walking sticks

2 Stainsby-Wayne writing machines

- 1 Underwood typewriter fitted with a Braille Scale
- 7 Portland, and
- 2 Venetian writing frames
- 6 Bread-cutting boxes
- 4 Boxes of dominoes, and
- 15 Peg frames for string bags

These aids are held in stock at County Hall and are issued on the recommendation of the Home Teacher concerned : the following extract from the Home Teachers' Quarterly Report is interesting :—

“Some difficulty was encountered in persuading many of the registered persons to try out the aids available. Once this was overcome all have found them to be invaluable, especially the self-threading needles. Most prefer to do their own running repairs and not to rely on other persons as in the past.”

Periodicals

The following periodicals embossed in Braille or Moon type were supplied free of charge to blind persons :—

<i>Periodical</i>	<i>Published</i>	<i>Number of Copies supplied</i>
Progress	Monthly	34
Madam Magazine	Monthly	29
World Digest	Monthly	28
Braille Radio Times	Weekly	24
New Beacon	Monthly	19
National Braille Mail	Weekly	17
Moon Magazine	Monthly	15
Sporting Record	Weekly	14
Braille Listener	Weekly	12
Moon Newspaper	Weekly	12
Home Help	Weekly	7
Hora Jocunda	Monthly	5
Sports Report	Weekly	4
Intelligence Digest	Monthly	4
Family Doctor	Monthly	4
Channels of Blessing	Bi-Monthly	4
Light of the Moon	Monthly	3
Moon Messenger	Monthly	2
World Christian Digest	Quarterly	1
Braille Technical Press	Monthly	1
Braille Chess Magazine	Quarterly	1
Horizon	Monthly	1
Braille Extracts Law Notes	Monthly	1
Piano Tuners' Quarterly	Quarterly	1
Daily Notes on Scripture Union Portions	Bi-Monthly	1
		<hr/> 244 <hr/>

I am pleased to record that there has once again been a small overall increase in demand for these periodicals, the total number requested last year being 226. In addition to these periodicals, supplied direct by the Department, your Committee made a grant of £153 to the National Library for the Blind in respect of 51 Glamorgan blind readers. From the 1st April, 1960, you agreed to increase the per capita grant by 10s. to £3.

The Wireless for the Blind Fund

Acting as Agents for the Fund in Glamorgan, the Department has distributed wireless sets to approved blind persons. Particulars of sets issued by the Fund, with comparative figures for previous years, are given below :—

<i>Types of Listening Equipment</i>	<i>Year Ended</i>				
	31/3/57	31/3/58	31/3/59	31/3/60	31/3/61
Universal Mains Sets ..	77	63	89	95	89
Battery Sets	4	4	4	3	2
Radio Relay	104	78	102	69	66

Repair of Wireless Sets

The sum of £200 has been expended on the repair of wireless receivers either privately owned or issued by the Wireless for the Blind Fund. The comparative sum for the two previous years was £224 and £223 respectively.

Wireless Telegraphy (Blind Persons Facilities) Act, 1955

To enable blind persons to obtain free wireless licences under the provisions of this Act, 285 certificates were issued. For the three previous years the figures were 290, 224 and 318 certificates, respectively.

Holidays for Blind Persons

In the year you approved payment of 29 financial grants to enable registered blind persons to enjoy a holiday at a holiday home of their choice, as follows :—

<i>Blind Holiday Home</i>	<i>Number of Persons Assisted</i>
Glynn Vivian Home of Rest, Mumbles, Gower	9
London Association for the Blind Home, "Orton Rigg," Bournemouth	17
The Bannow Home, St. Leonards-on-Sea ..	3
	—
	29
	—

The travelling expenses were also met, and in 18 instances a further grant was made to enable a sighted escort — usually the husband or wife — to accompany the person. Persons wishing to spend a holiday in other parts of the country with relatives or friends were also assisted in relation to their travelling expenses. Eighty-two grants of this description were made and in most instances the travelling expenses of a guide were also met. The cost of the holiday service was £511.

Pastime Occupations

Craftwork carried out at the Social Centres and at home has again been popular and the products of high quality. To encourage pastime occupation an initial outfit of materials is issued free of charge. Further encouragement takes the form of the Department's purchasing materials in bulk and allowing blind persons to buy at cost price. Remittances totalling £523 were received this year from blind and partially sighted persons and hereunder are set out the materials purchased compared with the position in previous years :—

	1958-59	1959-60	1960-61
	£	£	£
Seagrass and Stools ..	279	215	203
Cane and Strawplait ..	104	106	95
Macramé Twine ..	59	29	40
Wool	119	135	112
Knitting Yarn	58	57	73
	<hr/> 619	<hr/> 542	<hr/> 523

These diversionary occupations — sometimes profitable — give great satisfaction and a sense of achievement to blind persons, as the following extracts reflect :—

“... Craftwork continues at good level. I have encouraged those participating to take some work home with them to complete and return to the Centre the following week. I now find that most of the women members ask for homework as they find that this helps them to pass time more quickly, when owing to immobility and lack of guiding assistance, they are virtually homebound for the greater part of the week. Only a few of the men, however, participate in craftwork as they mainly enjoy a game of dominoes and a chat amongst themselves. I find at this Centre a high degree of social harmony, supplemented by a fair amount of craft activities. Balance of the two features is accepted and enjoyed by all members.”

“... An active handicraft section is springing up. Eight ladies are hard at it meeting the Area's requirements in the dishcloth line. Another lady makes artificial flowers, and one gentlemen is doing canework. I hope to expand the canework section and to introduce the crafts of rug-making and stool-making in the New Year. A private sale of work in the Christmas Season, raised sufficient money to finance our new ventures without drawing on Social Centre Funds.”

Social/Handicraft Centres and Group Activities

The number of Social/Handicraft Centres for the Blind remained at 18 ; all have enjoyed excellent support during the year, many having increased membership. The Table on page 74a provides fuller details. To encourage attendance at these Centres travelling expenses were reimbursed in 83 instances, and where appropriate the travelling expenses of a guide were also met. The total expenses paid by the Authority this year amounted to £883 compared with £773 and £746 in the two previous years.

Holly House, Pontypridd, the only full-time Centre, has continued its useful contribution to the welfare needs of blind persons in the area and the Home Teacher responsible has, in co-operation with local organisations, provided a varied programme of interest.

The range and variety of activities at the Social/Handicraft centres can be judged from the following reports :—

“ A carol service for the Centre members was held in St. Paul’s Church and for weeks before this the members learned and practised a number of carols. Miss — — read the Christmas Story from the Braille Bible and Mrs. — — was the soloist. This service proved very enjoyable and the Centre members expressed the wish that this be an annual event.”

“ The Centre is thriving with an ever-increasing membership and all concerned express appreciation of these weekly meetings. Besides the terrific flow of conversation between members, there are dominoes to be enjoyed, singing in which to participate, and the general business of the Centre to be got through. More concerts — talent to be drawn from both inside and outside the Centre — have been planned for the following year.”

“ At the G. Social Centre, interest is maintained in canework (6 persons), seagrass stool seating (3 persons) and knitting (6 persons). The articles made are sold or disposed of to friends and relatives.

Work undertaken at home, e.g. :—

Canework — 1 deaf blind and 2 partially sighted men ;

Seagrass stool seating — 1 partially sighted man ;

Rug-making — 2 blind ladies ;

String Bags — 1 blind and 1 partially sighted lady, and

Knitting — 8 blind ladies.”

“ Mrs. — —, who is deaf and partially sighted, has been taught the block capital system of communication, and has started to learn Moon and knit dishcloths. She has been very nervous, but has lately been gaining confidence attending the Social Centre.”

“ Miss M., a partially sighted lady with other handicaps, is making slow progress with canework as she has only the use of one hand, but she enjoys the work, and the social side of the Centre. There is a marked improvement in her social rehabilitation ; formerly she rarely left home.”



Above
THE TALKING BOOK



CO-OPERATIVE EFFORT
BY BLIND LADIES

Talking Books for the Blind

Seventeen blind persons have benefited from having on loan one of the eleven talking books available for persons unable to read Braille, or too ill to undertake handicraft work. The long playing records for these machines are supplied free by the Nuffield Talking Book Library for the Blind.

General Social Welfare of the Blind

During the months of June and July, 1960, 1,587 blind persons and their guides attended 16 summer outings arranged for their benefit. Fortunately, most outings, which cost in all £1,070, took place on fine days. The parties travelled from local Centres to Barry, Porthcawl, Llanstephan, Langland Bay, Brecon and Tintern.

You also decided this year to meet the cost of Glamorgan Journey-workers employed at Swansea Workshops attending the annual Workshops outing to Tenby in July. Forty-two Glamorgan workers and guides had a most enjoyable time. The cost to the Authority was £44.

In similar vein I have to report that 1,576 blind persons and sighted guides attended 16 Christmas Parties arranged in various parts of the County. At each a hearty vote of thanks was addressed to the County Council for the seasonal fare provided. On your behalf letters of thanks were sent to the artistes, concert parties, choirs and others whose voluntary efforts made the parties so successful.

To those blind persons who could not attend the parties owing to infirmity or illness, you sent 1,092 grocery vouchers exchangeable for Christmas fare at local shops. Supplementing these expressions of good will, every registered disabled person, blind or sighted, on the County's Registers received a Christmas card expressing your good wishes and seasonal greetings. Many letters of appreciation and thanks for these acts were received.

Throughout the year and particularly at Christmas, the Department receives many kind offers from local people and organisations to provide entertainment and other forms of assistance to the blind, e.g. :—

The Barry Town Council allows blind folks the free use of chairs on the sea-front and the Penarth Council admit such persons free of charge to the pier as well as the free use of chairs.

The Pontypridd Transport Undertaking allows blind persons to travel free of charge on their transport system.

Mrs. Wooley of Ynysybwl and Mr. D. Evans of Taffs Well made gifts of wireless sets for the use of registered blind persons.

In May, 1960, the Caerphilly Townswomen's Guild gave a concert which was greatly appreciated by the members of the Caerphilly Social Centre.

In Port Talbot, the Rotary Club there continued their practice of giving a large number of food parcels to necessitous blind persons in their locality.

The Blaenllechau Ladies' Choir gave their services free of charge to entertain the blind at your Rhondda Christmas Party held on the 5th December.

Thanks are sent on your behalf to all whose efforts contribute materially to your services and I would like here again to place on record my thanks and appreciation of this good work, particularly remembering those who throughout the year assist voluntarily in your Social Centres for the Blind.

4. WELFARE OF THE PARTIALLY SIGHTED

The Home Teaching Staff continue making regular visits to all registered partially sighted persons, advising and helping them with their welfare and employment problems. An increasing number of these people, i.e. nearly 32%, will according to medical opinion become certifiably blind within approximately four years, and therefore Home Teachers encourage them to learn Braille or Moon and other training appropriate to their needs. Partially sighted persons are invited to become members of Social/Handicraft Centres and enjoy most amenities available to the blind. This year, as encouragement to attend Centres, you authorised payment of travelling expenses in 28 instances.

Pastime Handicrafts

To encourage partially sighted persons to practise handicrafts, free initial issues of pastime materials are made and, as with the blind, they are allowed subsequently to buy at cost price handicraft materials purchased by the Department. This year, 59 persons were granted free initial issues and 67 orders for pastime materials were received.

Training and Employment

The number of partially sighted persons in "open" employment on the 31st March, 1961 was 30 compared with 33 for the previous year. Three are in employment in Workshops for the Blind.

In one instance, you have continued making a grant of 50% of the cost of travelling to work, having regard to the distance involved and the knowledge that but for his poor vision he would undoubtedly have a wider choice of employment and higher wages.

GLAMORGAN COUNTY BLIND WELFARE ASSOCIATION

In pursuance of the responsibility flowing from Section 29 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, the County Council has established Social/Handicraft Centres throughout the County and provides a qualified Home Teaching Service. At the Social Centres, Home Teachers enlist the services of a small band of voluntary workers who are formed into a Committee, to assist in running the Centre. If required by the Home Teacher they may make informal visits to homebound blind persons.

Almost immediately after the passing of the 1948 Act it became evident that there was a need for disbursement of small sums of money for welfare purposes. The Centre Committees are precluded by law from making any public appeals for financial support and the County Council is similarly debarred from making monetary payments to blind and partially sighted persons other than in respect of work performed.

In these circumstances the Glamorgan County Blind Welfare Association, fostered by the Welfare Services Committee, was set up in September, 1952, with the object, inter alia, of making small grants of money, etc., and co-ordinating the work of Centres.

Membership of the Association embraces Members of your Special Services Sub-Committee and representatives of Social Centres. Under a financial agreement with the Royal National Institute for the Blind and associated National Bodies, the Institute makes collections in the administrative county, the proceeds of which, after deducting collecting expenses, are distributed on a basis of 65% to the Association and 35% to the National Bodies.

Out of moneys made available to the Association, welfare arrangements are made in accordance with a scheme approved in 1954, the chief features of which are :—

- (1) amenities for the home-bound blind ;
- (2) social centre activities ;
- (3) general amenities, i.e., the provision of amenities for blind persons in the County Council Workshops or in "open" employment, being items that could not appropriately be purchased out of the County Council moneys ;
- (4) administration expenses of Committees attached to Social Centres, i.e., expenses incurred by Association members and voluntary helpers attached to Social Centres, in the furtherance of the Association's affairs.

Examples of the activities undertaken during the year out of the Association's funds are :—

- (i) The Association issued on loan 27 Braille watches and 8 alarm clocks and met the cost of repair of 41 Braille time-pieces, at a cost of £43 4s. 0d. An 8-day chiming clock was also repaired at a cost of £3 3s. 0d.
- (ii) Two Talking Book machines were purchased during the year at a total cost of £17 0s. 0d. Fifty wireless batteries were supplied and in 14 instances the cost of Radio Relay Rental was met.

- (iii) Useful items, costing approximately £16 in all, were provided and included 9 fireguards, 3 bed-jackets and one pair of slippers.
- (iv) From the Association's funds, Home Teachers make gifts of fruit, flowers, etc., to sick persons confined to their homes. In this year £732 was expended in this way.
- (v) Grants not exceeding £15 were made to each Centre to encourage inter-centre visits. Sixteen catering grants and 23 travelling grants were authorised at a total of £213 2s. 0d.
- (vi) Grants totalling £855 12s. 10d. were made towards 16 Summer Outings — additional to those provided by the County Council. One thousand, four hundred and forty-nine blind persons participated in the Outings.

(vii) *Eisteddfodau for the Blind*

The annual West Glamorgan Eisteddfod, held in August under the auspices of the Association, at the College of Further Education, Port Talbot, was attended by 420 blind persons and guides from 7 local Social Centres, who had a most happy and entertaining day. At the similar Eisteddfod for East Glamorgan, held at the Grammar School for Boys, Pontypridd, a week later, 500 blind persons and guides attended from 10 Social Centres. In the absence of your Chairman, County Councillor D. H. Davies, J.P., took the chair at Port Talbot and County Councillor A. W. Harris, J.P., was Chairman at Pontypridd.

The first-prize winners in the individual events at both Eisteddfodau were presented with competition cups to be held for a year, as well as cash prizes. The Madame Wynnne Richards-Thomas Challenge Cup and the Tudor Jeremy Challenge Cup were awarded to Mr. W. Lewis (Gorseinon Centre) and Miss Q. Kennard (Whitchurch Centre) respectively.

The total cost of the Eisteddfodau, including transport, catering and prizes was £411 14s. 1d.

5. COUNTY WORKSHOPS FOR THE BLIND

Some ten years ago the Authority accepted responsibility for the administration of the Rhondda and Pontypridd Workshops for the Blind and as a decade has now passed since that event it is perhaps appropriate to trace briefly development in this period.

The two Workshops are situated at Llwynypia and at the Treforest Industrial Estate, near Pontypridd, and employ 58 blind and 15 sighted but otherwise severely disabled handicapped persons, of both sexes. At 31st March, 1961, there were in addition four trainees.

From small beginnings in 1919 sheltered workshop provision for blind people was undertaken at Pontypridd, as a branch of the Swansea and South Wales Institution for the Blind, until 1927 when the Workshops were recognised by the Ministry of Health as a separate and independent

body. Primarily work was limited to teaching suitable blind persons trades whereby they might partially maintain themselves, and provide means of disposing of goods made. In 1928, Holly House, Pontypridd — today a full-time Social/Handicraft Centre for the Blind — came into being for this purpose and to meet the growing needs of the Institution, a grant of £2,500 was made from the Miners' Welfare Fund. On the 1st April, 1950, the Glamorgan County Council, at the request of the managing body, assumed full responsibility for the Workshops and the journeyworkers were transferred to the present factory known as Factory G.2. Treforest Industrial Estate, in April, 1951.

The County Workshop at Llwynypia was also founded in 1919 under voluntary auspices, from funds raised voluntarily, including grants from the Miners' Welfare Fund. The present workshop came into being for this purpose in 1923 and continued operating — often under great difficulty in the depression of the 1930's — until municipalised in June, 1951.

During the last ten years, considerable progress has been made in improving working conditions, equipment and still more important, the training of blind and physically handicapped journeymen and women.

Although the usual economic tests of profit cannot be strictly applied to sheltered workshop provision, this being a welfare rather than a commercial concept, it can be claimed that your Workshops are run today on an efficient basis. Such projects as these are inevitably expensive to maintain in terms of finance but constitute investment in terms of human resources.

The following list of articles now being produced shows the range of work at present being carried on at the Workshops :—

<i>Knitwear Department</i>	Skirts, jumpers, pullovers, cardigans, waistcoats, scarves, stockings, hose, etc.
<i>Basket Department</i> ..	Dog baskets, laundry baskets, clothes baskets, tea and luncheon baskets, pigeon baskets, shopping baskets, tea trays, etc.
<i>Mat Department</i> ..	Coir Yarn mats in standard sizes and two qualities — Gymnasium mats, door mats, car mats, kneeler mats, etc.
<i>Brush Department</i> ..	Roller Brushes, Bass brooms, scavenger brushes, etc.

There is also at Treforest a small department confined solely to the production of aids and gadgets designed to help physically handicapped people to overcome their disabilities. This is referred to in detail on page 54.

Members are aware that additional to the customary steps taken to secure full and efficient productivity, a contribution to this end has been made by the recent introduction into the Workshops of a number of sighted disabled workers. It is confidently anticipated that their contribution to the efforts of the blind workers will enhance the prospects of both.

In the course of this year the Minister of Labour has announced the setting up of a Working Party to review the current employment facilities provided in Workshops for the Blind, to consider their role, and the measures necessary to make their operation as efficient and economical as possible. Consideration is also to be given to the practicability and desirability of combining sheltered employment for the blind with similar provision for the other seriously disabled persons. On considering this matter you decided that the Ministry of Labour be informed of the County's present arrangements for training and employment of blind persons at the County Workshops and how in recent years the Authority had made arrangements for the integration of severely disabled sighted persons. An invitation was extended to members of the Working Party to visit the County Workshops for the Blind.

The numbers of journeymen and journeywomen employed in the various Departments of the County Workshops as at the 31st March, 1961, are given below :—

	<i>Treforest</i>	<i>Llwynypia</i>	<i>Total</i>
Mat	—	*18	18
Brush	—	†17	17
Knitwear	‡11	7	18
Basket	** 8	9	17
Aids to Handicapped Department ..	§ 3	—	3
	—	—	—
	22	51	73
	—	—	—

* Includes 1 Physically Handicapped worker.

† Includes 5 Physically Handicapped and 2 Partially Sighted workers.

‡ Includes 5 Physically Handicapped workers.

** Includes 1 Physically Handicapped worker.

§ Includes 3 Physically Handicapped workers.

Departmental Survey

Full employment has once again been achieved in all Departments of the County Workshops during the year.

Mat Department (Llwynypia)

The demand for gymnasium mats has continued to increase, and to enable them to be produced in single width, two more looms have this year been widened. A warping machine transferred from the County School for the Blind, Bridgend, to this Department is proving extremely useful.

There was no change in the number of journeymen employed in the Department.

Brush Department (Llwynypia)

Orders from Local Authorities for road roller and scavenging brushes have been maintained and the other types of brush find a ready market.

The number of journeymen employed remained the same during the year.

Knitting Department (Llwynypia and Treforest)

A new Italian knitting machine has been introduced into the Department and its success is already proved. The machine knits patterns automatically and a new fabric is being produced for ladies' skirts and jackets. The demand for this excellent knitwear is considerable but efforts to give better delivery dates continue.

The number of journeywomen employed has increased by one during the year.

Basket Department (Llwynypia and Treforest)

Orders have flowed in steadily during the year especially for pigeon baskets. Orders for G.P.O. and other large type baskets have been received from the National Association of Workshops for the Blind. The number of journeymen remained constant during the year.

A new concrete water tank has been constructed to replace the old galvanised tank.

Aids Department

An additional journeyman was appointed during the year but demand still outpaces production and it will be necessary to expand further in 1961.

General

This year's Annual Outing was the occasion for a trip to Porthcawl, when staff, blind and disabled workers all enjoyed a fine day.

The Christmas Party, once more held at the Pontypridd and District Social Club, was well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Accounts

The County Treasurer's summarised accounts for the Glamorgan County Workshops in respect of the year ended 31st March, 1961, will be found at the end of this Report.

Productive Earnings — Blind Workers

On the 31st March, 1961, the weekly qualifying earnings standards for new entrants to the County Workshops, based on the nationally agreed piece-work rates, were as follows :—

					£	s.	d.	
Mat	..	..	..	..	2	14	0	per week
Brush	..	..	..	..	2	13	2	per week
Basket	..	..	..	..	2	10	4	per week

The following figures compare the average earnings of the journey-workers at both Workshops during 1960/61 with those for the previous year :—

				1959/60			1960/61		
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Mat	..	..	..	3	1	2	3	5	4
Brush	..	..	..	2	15	11	2	19	8
Knitwear — Flat	..	..	..	2	10	2	2	15	0
Knitwear — Round	..		..	1	12	7	2	1	8
Basket	..	..	..	2	6	11	2	9	5

SALES ORGANISATION

The Sales Organisation has again experienced a successful year and has ensured full employment for the Workshop employees. Total sales were £377 less than in the previous year due to the very high level of sickness experienced by journeyworkers in 1961.

COUNTY WORKSHOPS — SALES ORGANISATION

<i>Twelve months ending</i>	<i>Total Sales £</i>	<i>Increase/Decrease £</i>
31/3/1961	25,341*	— 377
31/3/1960	25,718	+1,995
31/3/1959	23,723	+1,266
31/3/1958	22,457	+2,534
31/3/1957	19,923	+ 570
31/3/1956	19,353	+1,383

* Excludes value of aids manufactured and issued free to handicapped persons, and income from piano tuning.

Thanks to your Chairman and the Matrons of the Port Talbot and Neath General Hospitals, a considerable number of knitted garments and baskets have been sold to patients and staff of these hospitals. The value of goods actually sold in this way amounted this year to £825 and orders in hand awaiting execution at 31st March was considerable.

Display Case

A steady flow of orders was received as a result of displays at the County Hall and the County Offices at Ystrad Mynach and Bridgend.

Mail Order Department

In response to selective advertising, 604 pigeon baskets were sold at a price of £1,662.

Exhibitions

Exhibitions of products made at the Workshops were arranged at various agricultural and flower shows in the County. They once again proved their worth, not only in direct orders received but also in promoting valuable business relationships which result in subsequent orders. Displays were staged at the following Shows :—

Cowbridge Agricultural Show
Barry Flower and Horse Show
Bridgend Agricultural Show,
Wenvoe Agricultural and Flower Show
Cardiff Horticultural Show

Open Day at "The Court" St Fagans
and sales to the value of nearly £500 were made.

APPENDIX

WELFARE OF THE HANDICAPPED

STATISTICAL TABLES

The statistical information contained in this Appendix is based on information submitted to the Ministry of Health on the 31st December of each year but amended to relate to the year ended 31st March, 1961. The page number shown at the top right-hand corner of each Table indicates the page in the Report to which the Table refers.

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Welfare of the Handicapped

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- II Distribution of Registered Handicapped Persons by Age and Sex.
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- IIIb Disabilities of Generally Handicapped Persons — Complete Analyses.
- IV Welfare of the Deaf — Case Load of Home Visitors.
- V Social Centres for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

Welfare of the Blind and Partially Sighted

- VI Register of Blind Persons classified into Age Groups and Sex.
- VII Register of Blind Persons — Cases newly-registered during year ended 31st March, 1961 — Age at date of Registration.
- VIII Education, Training and Employment of Blind Persons over the age of 16.
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- XIII Register of Partially Sighted Persons — Cases newly-registered during year ended 31st March, 1961 — Age at Date of Registration.

TABLE I

See Page 42

NUMBER OF HANDICAPPED PERSONS ON REGISTER

	Aberdare	Bridgend	Caerphilly	Neath and West Glam.	Pontypridd	Rhondda	South-East Glamorgan	Total at 31/3/61	Total at 31/3/60	Total at 31/3/59
Deaf	28	42	38	67	33	39	14	261	254	260
Hard of Hearing ..	25	21	25	96	25	25	68	285	274	272
General Classes ..	479	617	421	962	478	1,048	427	4,432	4,148	4,072
TOTALS ..	532	680	484	1,125	536	1,112	509	4,978	4,676	4,605

TABLE II

See Page 42

DISTRIBUTION OF REGISTERED HANDICAPPED PERSONS
BY AGE

Disability	Sex	0-15	16-20	21-40	41-50	51-64	65 and over	Totals at 31st March, 1961	
Deaf	M.	12	11	52	10	29	22	136	261
	F.	12	9	45	20	18	21	125	
Hard of Hearing	M.	5	8	16	15	28	45	117	285
	F.	1	1	14	15	61	76	168	
Generally Handicapped ..	M.	14	54	455	397	983	1,023	2,926	4,432
	F.	19	50	331	188	428	490	1,506	
TOTALS ..		63	133	913	645	1,547	1,677	4,978	4,978

REGISTER OF GENERALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS

Disability	Aberdare	Bridgend	Caerphilly	Neath and West Glam.	Pontypridd	Rhondda	South-East Glamorgan	Total at 31st March, 1961	Total at 31st March, 1960	Total at 31st March, 1959
Amputations	15	31	17	59	22	42	13	199	189	171
Arthritis and Rheumatism	57	64	61	169	59	88	82	580	461	395
Congenital Malformation Deformation	10	12	12	38	18	23	9	122	112	105
Diseases of the Digestive and Genito/Urinary Systems, Heart Circulatory or Respiratory, and of the Skin	182	158	120	220	154	434	75	1,343	1,339	1,385
Injuries of the Head, Face and Thorax, Abdomen, Pelvis or Trunk Injuries or Diseases of Upper and Lower Limbs and Spine	68	98	69	135	69	113	74	626	588	586
Organic Nervous Diseases : Epilepsy, Disseminated Sclerosis, Polio, Sciatica, Hemiplegia, etc. ..	103	158	96	201	88	198	107	951	698	668
Neurosis, Psychoses, and other Nervous and Mental Disorders not included above	13	36	12	42	31	70	20	224	395	401
T.B. (Respiratory) ..	16	17	7	38	17	30	17	142	142	154
T.B. (Non- Respiratory)	5	5	8	17	4	7	5	51	48	49
Diseases and Injuries not specified above	10	38	19	43	16	43	25	194	176	159
TOTAL	479	617	421	962	478	1,048	427	4,432	4,148	4,073

TABLE IIIb

See Page 42

REGISTER OF HANDICAPPED PERSONS AT 31st MARCH, 1961

DISABILITY				Aberdare	Bridgend	Caerphilly	Neath and West Glam.	Pontypridd	Rhondda	South-East Glamorgan	Total
A. GENERAL CLASSES											
1.	Amputation — one arm	..	..	1	6	1	16	5	8	1	38
2.	Amputation — two arms	..	..	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	4
3.	Amputation — one leg	..	..	10	18	13	29	10	24	8	112
4.	Amputation — two legs	..	..	3	1	2	6	2	2	3	19
5.	Amputations — others	..	..	1	5	1	7	5	6	1	26
6.	Rheumatism	..	..	57	64	61	169	59	88	82	580
7.	Congenital Malformation	..	..	10	12	12	38	18	23	9	122
8.	Diseases of the Digestive System	..	..	11	13	12	10	14	28	7	95
9.	Diseases of Genito/Urinary System	..	..	4	6	5	7	4	7	2	35
10.	Diseases of Heart	..	..	38	42	34	47	29	70	42	302
11.	Pneumoconiosis	..	..	101	57	43	110	80	260	7	658
12.	Bronchitis	..	..	25	34	26	38	23	64	14	224
13.	Diseases of Skin	..	..	3	6	—	8	4	5	3	29
18.	Injuries of Head and Trunk	..	..	16	21	12	21	10	20	7	107
19.	Injuries of Lower Limbs	..	..	22	26	34	58	29	43	35	247
20.	Injuries of Shoulder or Arm	..	..	11	10	11	14	13	15	10	84
21.	Injuries of Spine	..	..	19	41	12	42	17	35	22	188
22.	Neurosis	..	..	28	25	20	16	20	54	7	170
23.	Epilepsy	..	..	13	20	18	30	13	33	21	148
24.	Other Nervous Diseases	..	..	62	113	58	155	55	111	79	633
25.	Mental Deficiency	..	..	12	28	10	31	17	50	16	164
26.	Other Mental Disorders	..	..	1	8	2	11	14	20	4	60
27.	T.B. Pulmonary	..	..	16	17	7	38	17	30	17	142
28.	T.B. Surgical	..	..	5	5	8	17	4	7	5	51
29.	Others	..	..	10	38	19	43	16	43	25	194
				479	617	421	962	478	1,048	427	4,432
B.	DEAF	..	..	28	42	38	67	33	39	14	261
C.	HARD OF HEARING	..	..	25	21	25	96	25	25	68	285
				532	680	484	1,125	536	1,112	509	4,978

TABLE IV
WELFARE OF THE DEAF — CASE LOAD OF SOCIAL
WELFARE OFFICERS

See Page 62

Area	Social Welfare Officer	Case Load of Registered Handicapped Persons		Responsible for Social Centres
		1959/60	1960/61	
CAERPHILLY AND SOUTH-EAST GLAMORGAN	Mr. P. Dalladay	50 Deaf 43 Hard of Hearing	52 Deaf 55 Hard of Hearing	Caerphilly *Barry
PONTYPRIDD AND RHONDDA		72 Deaf 31 Hard of Hearing	72 Deaf 32 Hard of Hearing	Treorchy
ABERDARE	Mr. I. Martin	28 Deaf 21 Hard of Hearing	28 Deaf 21 Hard of Hearing	Aberdare
BRIDGEND		40 Deaf 3 Hard of Hearing	42 Deaf 4 Hard of Hearing	—
NEATH AND WEST GLAMORGAN		64 Deaf 8 Hard of Hearing	67 Deaf 8 Hard of Hearing	Briton Ferry

* The Barry Hard of Hearing Centre is in the charge of Mrs. D. M. Evans, the Technical Assistant for the Deaf.

TABLE V
CENTRES FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING

See Page 63

Area	Town	Venue	Evening	Social Welfare Officer	Average Weekly Attendance	
					1960/61	1959/60
CAERPHILLY	Caerphilly	St. Martin's Church Hall, Caerphilly	Thursday, 6-9 p.m.	Mr. P. Dalladay	19	17
ABERDARE	Aberdare	Memorial Hall, Aberdare	Thursday, 8-10 p.m.	Mr. I. Martin	12	10
RHONDDA	Treorchy	St. Matthew's Church Hall	Wednesday, 6-9 p.m.	Mr. P. Dalladay	16	14
SOUTH-EAST GLAMORGAN	Barry Hard of Hearing	Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry	Tuesday, 7-9 p.m.	Mrs. D. M. Evans	27	19
NEATH	Briton Ferry	Public Hall, Briton Ferry	Tuesday, 6-9 p.m.	Mr. I. Martin	19	20

TABLE VI

See Page 69

REGISTER OF BLIND PERSONS AS AT 31st MARCH, 1961
(Classified under Age Groups)

	0	1	2	3	4	5-10	11-15	16-20	21-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-64	65-69	70-79	80-84	85-89	90+	Total
Male ..	-	-	-	-	1	11	4	9	21	34	43	104	69	91	236	127	74	34	858
Female ..	-	-	-	-	-	12	7	5	15	23	69	123	74	129	397	192	148	49	1,243
Total at 31/3/61	-	-	-	-	1	23	11	14	36	57	112	227	143	220	633	319	222	83	2,101
Total at 31/3/60	-	-	-	1	2	22	16	14	34	65	118	218	163	218	642	352	208	66	2,139

TABLE VII

BLIND PERSONS REGISTERED AS NEW CASES DURING YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1961
(Excluding recertifications and transfers from other areas)

AGE AT DATE OF REGISTRATION

	0	1	2	3	4	5-10	11-15	16-20	21-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-64	65-69	70-79	80-84	85-89	90+	Total
Male ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	7	9	11	32	16	9	11	99
Female ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	9	5	22	50	32	22	7	150
Total at 31/3/61	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	4	16	14	33	82	48	31	18	249
Total at 31/3/60	2	-	-	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	12	21	24	38	131	76	31	10	354

TABLE VIII

EDUCATION, TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT AGE PERIODS 16 YEARS AND UPWARDS

Age	EMPLOYED										Undergoing Training			NOT EMPLOYED										GRAND TOTAL (i.e. Total of Columns (d) - (p) and at School 16-20)	Number of Persons registered under the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1944, included in Column (q)	
	As Approved Home Workers						Otherwise than in (a) or (b)				(a)	(f)	(g)	Unemployed but capable of and available for work						(n)	(o)	(p)				
	In Workshops for the Blind						(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)				(h)	(i)	(j)	(k)	(l)	(m)							
At School	16-20	21-39	40-49	50-59	60-64	65 and over					(a)	(b)	(c)							(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)	(k)	(l)	(m)	16-59	60-64	Not Available for Work	Not Capable of Work	65 and over
Male ..	5	12	17	26	5	-	3	—	—	—	—	1	-	4	1	4	2	-	2	20	9	65	51	565	840	132
Female ..	-	9	5	4	1	-	-	—	—	—	—	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	143	54	63	20	916	1224	29
Total at 31/3/1961	5	21	22	30	6	-	4	—	—	—	—	1	-	4	1	4	4	-	2	163	63	128	71	1481	2064	161
Total at 31/3/1960	6	24	23	29	5	-	31	—	—	—	—	-	-	8	-	10	1	1	1	165	61	125	93	1485	2098	164

TABLE IX

OCCUPATIONS OF EMPLOYED BLIND PERSONS (INCLUDED IN COLUMN (d) OF TABLE VIII)

PERIOD — YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1961

	Agents, Collectors, etc.	Agricultural Workers	Basket Workers	Mattress Workers	Boot Repairers	Brush Makers	Chair Seaters	Clerks and Typists	Dealers, Tea Agents, Newagents, Shopkeepers	Domestic Workers	Factory Operatives (Open Employment)	Gardeners	Machine Knitters	Physiotherapy	Labourers	Mat Makers	Newsvendors and Hawkers	Legal Profession	Piano Tuners	Porters, Packers, Cleaners	School Teachers	Telephone Operators	Open Employment not catalogued	Miscellaneous	TOTAL
Workshops for the Blind ..	—	—	25	1	—	12	1	—	—	—	—	16	—	—	—	20	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	79
" Open " Employment ..	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	4	3	1	21	1	—	3	5	—	1	1	—	1	1	6	6	—	58
Total at 31st March, 1961 ..	2	1	25	1	1	12	1	4	3	1	21	1	16	3	5	20	1	1	1	1	1	6	6	3	137
Total at 31st March, 1960 ..	2	1	23	1	1	15	1	4	3	—	23	—	17	1	5	20	1	1	1	1	1	6	9	3	140

TABLE X
BLIND CHILDREN, AGE UNDER 16

	Under 2	Age 2 to 4 plus			Age 5 to 15 plus							TOTAL
		Suitable for Education At School		Unsuitable For Education at School	Suitable for Education at School					Unsuitable for Education At School		
		Attending Nursery Schools including Sunshine Homes	At Home or Elsewhere	At Home or Elsewhere	Attending Special Schools for the Blind		Attending Other Schools	Not at School		At Home or Elsewhere	Blind with Multiple Defects	
					Blind but no other Defects	Blind with other Defects		Blind but no other Defects	Blind with other Defects			
Male	—	—	1	1	9	2	—	—	1	4	18	
Female	—	—	—	—	13	2	1	—	—	2	19	
Total at 31/3/1961 ..	—	—	1	1	22	4	1	—	1	6	37	
Total at 31/3/1960 ..	—	—	2	1	24	4	1	1	—	8	41	

TABLE XI

BLIND PERSONS AGED 16 AND UPWARDS (EXCLUDING THOSE IN HOSTELS FOR WORKERS)

RESIDENT IN HOMES, HOSPITALS, ETC.

	Residential Accommodation provided under Part III of the 1948 Act, viz. Section 21		Residential Homes (other than Part III)	In Hospitals for Mentally Ill	In Hospitals for Mentally Sub-Normal	Chronic Wards of Hospitals	Total
	Homes for the Blind (a)	Other Homes (Glamorgan County Council) (b)					
Male	4	29	1	2	4	8	48
Female	6	28	1	4	7	14	60
Total at 31st March, 1961 ..	10	57	2	6	11	22	108
Total as 31st March, 1960 ..	11	57	—	9	10	28	115

TABLE XII

See Page 69

TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTIALLY SIGHTED PERSONS
AGE GROUPS AND SEX

	0-1	2-4	5-15	16-20	21-49	50-64	65 and over	Total
Males	—	—	16	9	38	38	126	227
Females	—	—	12	8	42	65	293	420
Total at 31/3/1961 ..	—	—	28	17	80	103	419	647
Total at 31/3/1960 ..	—	—	28	19	73	80	353	553

TABLE XIII

See Page 70

NUMBER OF PARTIALLY SIGHTED PERSONS NEWLY
REGISTERED (EXCLUDING RE-CERTIFICATIONS AND
TRANSFERS FROM OTHER AREAS)

AGE AT DATE OF REGISTRATION

	0-1	2-4	5-15	16-20	21-49	50-64	65-69	70-79	80 and Over	Total
Males	—	—	2	2	5	11	10	27	9	66
Females	—	—	1	—	6	22	21	49	25	124
Total at 31/3/61 ..	—	—	3	2	11	33	31	76	34	190
Total at 31/3/60 ..	—	1	7	—	11	16	22	58	24	139

COUNTY WORKSHOPS FOR THE BLIND
TRADING ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1961

1959/60 £	EXPENDITURE	County Workshops Totals 1960/61 £	INCOME		County Workshops Totals 1960/61 £
			1959/60 £	1960/61 £	
7,998	Stock brought forward	7,306	25,718	.. .. .	24,461
11,194	Purchases	10,885	7,306	.. .. .	7,411
10,877	Productive Earnings	10,695	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .
	GROSS PROFIT TRANSFERRED TO PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT :—				
1,107	Brush Department	1,367			
133	Mat Department	2			
634	Basket Department	289			
1,081	Knitting Department	1,328			
£33,024		£31,872	£33,024		£31,872

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1961

1959/60 £	EXPENDITURE	County Workshops Totals 1960/61 £	INCOME		County Workshops Totals 1960/61 £
			1959/60 £	1960/61 £	
9,977	Wages, Superannuation and National Insurance	10,124	2,955	Gross profit transferred from Trading Account 2,986	2,986
262	Travelling Expenses—Staff	258	218	Interest on investments	228
1,535	Travelling Expenses—Blind	1,654	723	Purchase Tax	751
665	Rent, rates, insurance	933	132	Miscellaneous	192
1,301	Heating, Lighting, Cleaning	1,352	13,465	Government Grants	10,832
1,465	Repairs to Building and Plant	1,578	17,493		
164	Tools and Stores	327	28,556	Deficit charged to General County Account	14,989
6	Carriage Outwards	13			31,547
296	Printing, Stationery, etc.	263			
716	Purchase Tax	779			
827	Plant and Machinery	30			
386	Furniture and Equipment	172			
2,626	Central Administrative Expenses	2,761			
	ESTABLISHMENT EXPENSES				
1,273	Welfare Department	1,406			
789	Supplies Department	783			
148	Architect's Department	274			
2,965	Sales Expenses	3,664			
252	Capital Expenditure from Revenue	263			
101	Miscellaneous	21,462			
20,877	Augmentation of Wages				
46,631		48,096			
582	LESS chargeable to Training Account	1,560			
£46,049		£46,536	£46,049		£46,536

TRAINING ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1961

1959/60 £	EXPENDITURE	County Workshops Totals 1960/61 £	INCOME		County Workshops Totals 1960/61 £
			1959/60 £	1960/61 £	
140	Stock brought forward	68	265	Sales	1,327
112	Purchases	609	68	Stock carried forward	91
822	Management and instruction expenses	2,107	420	Government Grants	910
			321	Deficit charged to General County Account	456
£1,074		£2,784	£1,074		£2,784

AREA CLERKS — NAMES AND ADDRESSES

One of the many duties of the Area Clerks of the Welfare Services Department is that of investigating all applications for admission to residential or temporary accommodation. Many initial enquiries are, however, made to the local County Councillor, and therefore, for the benefit of Members there is set out below a list of the names, addresses and telephone numbers of Area Clerks and the districts they cover :—

<i>Area and Districts Covered</i>	<i>Area Clerks and Telephone Numbers</i>
ABERDARE	
Aberdare Urban District : Hirwaun, Cwmdare, Trecynon, Llwydcoed, Gadlys, Aberdare, Abernant, Cwmbach, Aberaman, Cwm- aman, Glynhafod, Abercwmboi.	Mr. T. S. Rees, D.M.A., County Offices, Llewellyn Street, Trecynon, Aberdare. Aberdare 3018.
Mountain Ash Urban District : Mountain Ash, Perthcelyn, Cefnpennar, Penrhiw- ceiber, Matthewstown, Ynysboeth, Abercynon.	
BRIDGEND	
Maesteg U.D., Bridgend U.D., Porthcawl U.D., Penybont R.D., Ogmores and Garw U.D. except Evanstown, Gilfach Goch Ward.	Mr. R. Ll. Jones, B.A., D.M.A., County Offices, Quarella Road, Bridgend. Bridgend 4056.
CAERPHILLY	
Caerphilly Urban District. Gelligaer Urban District.	Mr. T. S. Rees, D.M.A., County Offices, Caerphilly Road, Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed 3171-3.
NEATH AND WEST GLAMORGAN	
Port Talbot Borough, Neath Borough, Neath Rural District, Glyncoed Urban District.	Mr. D. Harries, D.M.A., 8 Wind Street, Neath. Neath 2241-2.
Gower Rural District, Llchwyr Urban District, Pontardawe Rural District.	
PONTYPRIDD AND RHONDDA	
Pontypridd Area comprises the Pontypridd Urban District and the Llantrisant and Llantwit Fardre Rural District.	Mr. Irwyn Roderick, B.A., County Offices, Court House Street, Pontypridd. Pontypridd 2275-6.
Rhondda area coincides with the administrative area of the Rhondda Borough.	
SOUTH EAST GLAMORGAN	
Cardiff Rural District, Penarth Urban District, Barry Borough, Cowbridge Borough and Cowbridge Rural District.	Mr. R. Ll. Jones, B.A., D.M.A., 20 Park Place, Cardiff. Cardiff 20263.



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